Irish Volunteer

THE

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 53 (New Series). SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1915. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

Dublin Castle is not going to relax its efforts to drive the truth into the minds of the Irish public on the Irish quastion, whatever Mr. Redmond and our Nathanal organs may desire to the contrary. For the sound political education of Ireland, give us no better board of education than one composed of Castle officials, Castle Magistrates, and military men engaged in putting down Prussian militarism. I will guarantee them to straighten out any sharp curve that may be introduced into Irish politics.

* * *

On November 9th Patrick Dyer, a young man of Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo, was arrested in that place by a District Inspector of Police. On November 30th, three weeks later, he was brought to trial in the South Dublin Police Court. Three weeks' imprisonment by Mr. Birrell before trial by a police magistrate! That was a good beginning.

* * *

Why was Mr. Dyer tried in Dublin and not before the local court of the place where he was arrested? The question was raised by counsel at the trial. The Defence of the Realm Act expressly provides that a prisoner shall be tried in the place where he was found by the Crown. The Castle lawyer defended the Castle proceeding on the ground that the point had already been decided in "the Enniscorthy case," and the Castle magistrate unheld the view of the Castle lawyer.

* * *

Both the Castle lawyer and the Castle magistrate knew in the first place that the so-called decision in "the Enniscorthy case," being merely the decision of a police magistrate, did not govern any future decision. In the second place, they both knew that the said decision was in flagrant violation of the Act of Parliament. If the Enniscorthy decision held good, then the words of the Act of Parliament are a nullity, reduced to a nullity by a Castle lawyer and a Castle magistrate. The decision in the Enniscorthy case was that the Crown found the prisoner, not in Enniscorthy, where the Crown arrested him, but in Dublin, to which the Crown carried him. In like manner the Crown "found" Patrick Dyer, not in Tubbercurry where he was taken into the Crown custody, but in Dublin, 166 miles away, where the Crown kept him a prisoner for three weeks. All this time he was in the custody of the Crown. From the moment of his arrest in Tubbercurry he was in Crown custody. Yet a Castle tribunal solemnly declares, on the invitation of the Castle lawyer, that the Crown "found" the prisoner in Dublin. I said a few days ago at the Mansion House, and I call these facts, though there are bigger facts, in witness of the truth of what I said, that the government of Ireland by England cannot be carried on by honest and honourable men, and must degrade every man who is made instrumental in it.

* * *

There are men engaged in the government of Ireland who would profess to be insulted if other men were to tell them that they would prefer not to play cards with persons whose standard of honour is regulated by the requirements of Dublin Castle. I ask, is it possible for any man of honour to associate himself with this sort of low chicanery? Patrick Dyer is now in jail, convicted of conduct "likely to cause disaffection to his Majesty." Is the conduct of those who have sent him to jail likely to cause affection or disaffection?

* * *

The conduct "likely to cause disaffection," charged against Patrick Dyer, consisted of two counts. The first was that he and thirty-one other men signed a document "stating that they would be willing to enlist for military service under a free and independent National Government, when such was established in Ireland, and that they were prepared to resist with their lives any attempt to enforce compulsory military service on themselves or their countrymen when Ireland was under foreign rule."

* * *

This is a declaration pure and simple against compulsory military service. The whole Irish Party has declared against the same thing. Mr. Dillon has gone further and pledged himself to oppose by every means in his power the exercise of indirect compulsion through the pressure of employers on their employees. Is it to test the sincerity of honest John Dillon that his present ally, Sir Matthew Nathan, sends a poor man, a shop assistant in a country town, to jail for adopting Mr. Dillon's pledge?

* * *

Perhaps it was the declaration in favour of a free and independent National Government that stuck in the craw of the ex-Governor of Hong Kong. Grattan's Parliament was free and independent, though subject to the freely exercised corrupting influences of another Government. Mr. Dillon, on the same occasion on which he denounced indirect compulsion, declared in favour of an Irish Constitution which, he promised, would be from a National standpoint still stronger than Grattan's Parliament. If Mr. Dillon's twofold declaration, made at Armagh, in favour of a National Government and against military compulsion, even of an indirect kind, is right and proper, why is Patrick Dyer made a criminal by a Government which has Mr. Dillon's support?

* * *

The Castle is under no delusions about the character of its own proceedings, and, though quite willing to send an ordinary Irishmen to jail (one of those "fellows" from the West about whose illegal treatment Mr. Redmond spoke recently with lofty indifference) for wanting, like Mr. Dillon, to get rid of Dublin Castle and to defeat the militarist enslavement of Irishmen, still the Castle does not like to show its hand too plainly. It prefers the indirect method, the Oriental method, as we have seen in its use of the Nathanal Board and other public departments, and in the shifting of its ground in previous "senseless prosecutions." The real object of the Tubbercurry prosecution, or rather one of the real objects, was to intimidate Irishmen from doing what they have a right to do, from resisting compulsory military service. Let it be said

plainly, and I challenge refutation on the point, that the whole public opinion of Ireland is against military compulsion. The "Unionist" democracy in the north-east hates military compulsion no less than the Nationalist democracy all over Ireland. Those who favour compulsion are a handful of interested persons who are allowed to shout, and some of them paid to shout, while the Castle is trying to intimidate the whole democracy into silence. But once more the Castle shifted its stand from the bad leg to the crutch in the case against Patrick Dyer.

* * *

To convict Patrick Dyer on the document signed by the thirty-two men would be to declare Mr. Dillon a licensed criminal. Accordingly, on a second count, another document was put in evidence which contained the words: "We earnestly urge all able-bodied men of Sligo County to arm themselves with effective weapons without delay and give the so-called leaders who want to send them to bloody fields in foreign lands a very wide berth." When this was read, the magistrate, Mr. Drury, made the comment—"That means running away." It has become the fashion for the privileged few in Ireland to charge Irishmen with cowardice. And yet we are daily asked to believe that the present war is "a war of attrition," which means that its result is expected to depend on the valour of superior numbers. Mr. Drury pretends to think that the prisoner before him advises Irishmen to arm themselves for the purpose of running away. Mr. Drury, with an Empire at his back, and a helpless man before him, tells that man that he, the prisoner, is an advocate of cowardice. I recommend Mr. Drury for the distinction which carries the motto "For Valour."

* * *

Having overruled and overridden the Act of Parliament under which the prosecution was instituted, the Castle proceeded with the "trial." A witness named Hugh Gallagher was called for the prosecution. Mr. Power, for the defence, proposed to show that this witness was produced under intimidation. Of course the vile attempt to throw the light of evidence on the Hong Kong method of producing affection was not allowed to succeed. The Castle lawyer put a question to the witness. The witness replied, "I decline to answer." Mr. Robertson (for the Castle)—"I would ask your worship to take **very serious notice of this.**" Further deliberate intimidation. And the magistrate at once says with alacrity—"Indeed I will!" We can now see why certain tribunals are selected and why men are dragged across the whole country to be tried before these chosen tribunals in open violation of the Defence of the Realm Act itself.

* * *

The "very serious notice" proposed by the Castle prosecutor and joyfully accepted by the dispenser of Castle law in defiance of the statute meant, of course, a smart sentence for contempt of court. Yet it surprised nobody in Ireland to learn that presently the magistrate, who had thus sought to intimidate a witness, was forced to admit that the question was one which the witness could not lawfully be required to answer, and the Crown prosecutor, who had proposed this further piece of intimidation to the eager magistrate, was compelled to acquiesce in his decision. These men were both aware, and had to confess it in public, that they had joined in an illegal attempt to take advantage of a witness and a prisoner, poor men from a country town 166 miles away. Perhaps people who do not quite understand me yet will come to understand me by degrees, when I tell them—for I have exceptional evidence on the point, evidence that cannot be suppressed—that the foreign government of Ireland cannot be carried on by honest and honourable men.

* * *

District Inspector Walsh, cross-examined, said he understood the phrase in the document "while Ireland is under foreign rule" to mean until Ireland got Home Rule. So, according to Dublin Castle, to demand Home Rule is to "create disaffection to his Majesty." Mr. Drury, in delivering sentence, took the word from a recently reported interview of Mr. John Redmond: "If the prisoner were in Germany, he would not now be in a court. He would have been shot."

* * *

I see no good to be expected from an appeal to our Irish Party statesmen to reconsider this state of things which, by their policy of perpetual yielding, they are chiefly responsible for bringing about in Ireland. I appeal to the rank and file of Irish Nationalists. Could any man of them have believed two years ago that such a state of things could come about with the silent approval of their elected representatives?

* * *

At the North Dublin Board of Guardians the other day, Mrs. Guinness, a Unionist lady Guardian, spoke strongly about the Government's ways of saving and spending. "All the economies," she is reported have said, "were being made at the expense of the poor." Naturally. Dog doesn't eat dog.

* * *

The London "Morning Post" thinks, now that certain persons, assuming to speak for Ireland, have agreed to sink the small nationality in the big imperiality, that the whole argument for Home Rule has disappeared. It is sad to see that influential organs of English opinion refuse to accept the repeated declarations of Mr. Redmond that Home Rule is now absolutely assured. Not a single Unionist organ has accepted it. On the contrary, Mr. Redmond's followers are told that, having waived every other possible point, they are unreasonable and illogical in sticking out for the trifle of a subordinate Parliament. Your Irishmen, say these champions of liberty and small nationalities, have fought for our flag in tens of thousands and died in thousands. You have allowed us to tax you to any extent we like. You have allowed us to use any intimidation we like against your own countrymen. Come to our arms! We are willing to forget all the past misdeeds and ingratitude of Ireland. Have you not said that Ireland can trust the British Democracy? Henceforth let us be brothers. Let us legislate for you. Do not say you cannot trust us. Do not say you do not love us. What answer have the advocates of Ireland a Province to make to an argument and an appeal so logical, so touching, so overpowering?

* * *

Mr. Dillon asks, "Can King George forego his signature?" The "Morning Post," spread out on King George's breakfast table, answers, "Certainly he can—nothing easier." It only remains for the "Freeman's Journal" to overtrump the "Morning Post" and declare, "Very well, we also will undo what we have done. We will take back the millions we have paid you. We will call our dead men back to life!" All of which is quite as easy as the cancelling of the signature on a cheque that has never been cashed.

* * *

Mr. Birrell has got his lesson well by rote. Further questioned in Parliament by Mr. Ginnell about the "senseless prosecutions," which are continued in spite of the resolute protests we have heard of, Mr. Birrell marks out the Irish Volunteers as the special object of Dublin Castle hostility. His excuse is that the Irish Volunteers, "under the guidance of their Committee," are opposed to recruitment and are generally disloyal. Chief Secretary Birrell just introduces a slight verbal change into the formula adopted and circulated by Under-Secretary Nathan many months ago. They all have it pat off—Nathan, Birrell, Starkie, and various other departmental heads of Castle boards and departments. The fact is that the ingenious Under-Secretary undertook to work up a case against the Irish Volunteers, so that the champions of liberty and small nationalities might have a free hand to deal with them when the proper opportunity should arrive. Mr. Birrell's answer shows that he is playing his part in the game. It is evident, too, that instructions have been sent round in the good old style to procure the precise sort of police evidence that is required. If the Castle machinery is at all rusty, I know where to find good working models

for Mr. Birrell. I can tell him how his colleague, Mr. Balfour, managed these things. If Mr. John Gordon, Attorney-General, is at a loss, I can tell him exactly what Mr. Peter O'Brien, Attorney-General, used to do in similar difficulties. If Mr. Robertson of the Castle law department, wants really useful precedents, I can enlighten him about the procedure of the classic days when Sir Edward Carson was Attorney-General's devil. Mr. Birrell says he has evidence. No man in his position has ever been at a loss for evidence. We have seen samples of the evidence in the Foynes case, where the magistrates would not accept it, in the Monahan case, where a conviction was secured on the testimony of a policeman—"he wasn't listening at the window," says Mr. Birrell, "he was listening under the window,"—and in the Cahirciveen case, where Patrick Kinsella was convicted on the evidence of men who had assaulted him and insulted his country. No doubt Mr. Birrell will get plenty of evidence of the right sort.

* * *

He has two charges against the Irish Volunteers, and in particular, be it noted, against the Irish Volunteer Committee—Dr. Starkie's two charges, Mr. Norway's two charges—they are an extensive body, this Irish political special service—the charges of anti-recruitment and of disloyalty. Poor Mr. Birrell. He gave the National Volunteers a certificate of loyalty some months ago, and up to the present there is no sign that any of them accepted is as a compliment. We are too long accustomed in Ireland to the cant of loyalty and disloyalty to be in the least perturbed by it when we hear it from an English Minister who was pledged in honour to have Home Rule for all Ireland established last year.

* * *

As for making recruitment unpopular, any man would be a fool who would take that task out of the hands of Mr. Birrell's loyalist friends. But I will again remind Mr. Birrell that the war and recruitment are not the occasion of his Government's active hostility to the Irish Volunteers. His Government allowed Englishmen to supply arms and funds for what was conveniently called Civil War in Ireland. They allowed Mr. Bonar Law, leader of the Unionist Party, to warn them that their Home Rule policy—save the mark!—was leading up to "massacre." They allowed Mr. Austin Chamberlain in his Manchester speech to threaten Ireland with something which was not exactly Civil War. They allowed Sir Edward Carson in the Buckingham Palace Conference to indicate an alternative which was not Civil War. They allowed Englishmen to make preparations for an English armed invasion of Ireland in the event of Home Rule. They allowed arms purchased with English money to be imported under the pretended aspect of a grand secret exploit—more of the Hypocritical Sham—and to be distributed with a similar mock show of secrecy and adventure. They made a precious pow-wow, which carefully came to nothing at all, over the Curragh threat to aid and abet the "Civil War" conspiracy. And be it noted that all this conspiracy has also been honoured by Mr. Birrell with a certificate of loyalty. But the Irish Volunteers were dogged from the first day by Mr. Birrell's appointed spies. Two years ago, when I went to Waterford City with The O'Rahilly and Mr. John Gore, to attend a Volunteer meeting, we had Mr. Birrell's spy beside us in the railway carriage and beside us in the hotel. When we went to Dungarvan, we found the place under military surveillance. When we imported arms, we were opposed by a military expedition, and defenceless people were shot down in the streets — and Mr. Harrel was "dismissed" with a wink, to be subsequently rewarded. All this was before there was any war and any "recruitment" for the war. So Mr. Birrell is now collecting "evidence"—that the government of Ireland is a continuity.

EOIN MAC NEILL

Hedge-Fighting for Small Units

AMBUSHES.

In another sense, too, roads offer positions—for ambushes. There are countless instances in the history of the Irish wars of the success of enterprises of this kind: Tubberneering is perhaps the most noteworthy. A wagon-train or a battery of artillery are particularly likely objects for an ambush, because they are absolutely helpless at close range. Many of the roads are so narrow that they would be choked up quickly and great confusion would arise. The most favourable time for attacking a train is when passing through woods, through a defile, or over a bridge; when going round a sharp bend in the road; when ascending or descending difficult slopes, or when bogged in a soft road; when being parked for the night, or when the teams are getting watered. A column of troops may also be ambushed—but in this case care must be taken to escape the observation of scouts. The advance guard should be allowed to pass, and the main body attacked. According to circumstances the centre, head or rear of the column may be attacked. In the case of troops an end of the column is best, as they take much longer to form front than to a flank. If the party is judiciously handled very inferior forces can inflict grievous loss, and if—as is quite possible—the assailed column falls into disorder it may be destroyed. The strictest precautions must be taken to enforce absolute silence on the troops lying in ambush, and to prevent premature discharge of firearms. Any warning of this kind will alarm the enemy and ruin the enterprise. The enemy should be allowed to approach as close as possible before fire is opened, and if the numbers warrant it the first volley—volleys are best—should be instantly followed by a charge with bayonet and pike to complete the overthrow.

It will often be found advantageous to lay the ambush in two portions—an advance Post and a Rear post. No exact rule can be laid down for guidance in this matter; but frequently great results will be obtained if the rear post—that furthest from the enemy—betrays its presence and themselves of the facilities for ambush post, which is thus able to catch him in rear. Careful study of ground and constant practice in small field exercises of the kind are the only dependable way of training officers and men to fully avail themselves of the facilities for ambush offered in Ireland. Engagements like Tubberneering, Saintfield, Ballyellis, etc., should be carefully studied and the details known.

DELAYING ACTIONS.

Another class of action having the roads for scene are those delaying combats to cover a retreat or to secure time for a deployment or merely for harrassing pure and simple. Small bodies of troops have great opportunities for this kind of action, even against greatly superior numbers. At first only the heads of the advancing columns could come into action; and the length of time required for deploying the columns would always be sufficient for a well-handled small party to withdraw and take up another position in rear—there to repeat the performance. The method of action is to open fire suddenly, and keep on firing as long as it is able to do so. Every care should be taken to keep the men thoroughly in hand and make every shot tell.

For action of this kind cyclist troops are in a class by themselves. Their proper sphere is on or close to the roads—at a distance from the roads they become practically infantry. A suitable position for them is to line the hedge near a turn of the road commanding a fair stretch of road in the direction of the enemy. Practically every turn of the road can be contested in this manner if the men are well trained. Their machines should be concealed on the road a little way to the rear turned rearwards—and grounded, not stacked. A dip in the road after a level stretch offers much the same opportunities for delaying action as a turn. Any position in front of a point where the road is met by a diagonal hedge is radically false, because the hedge provides a covered-way right to the rear of the position and all retreat is cut off.

All literary communications for the IRISH VOLUNTEER should be addressed in future to

VOLUNTEER HEADQUARTERS,
2 Dawson Street, DUBLIN.

All communications re Advertisements to be addressed to the

IRISH PRESS BUREAU,
30 Lower Abbey Street, DUBLIN.

SUBSCRIPTION.—THE IRISH VOLUNTEER will be posted free to any address for one year at a cost of 6/6; for half a year, 3/3; for the quarter, 1/8.

Cheques and Postals should be crossed and made payable to the Manager, IRISH VOLUNTEER.

The Irish Volunteer

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1915.

EXAMINATION 'A' FOR OFFICERS

1. All officers of Irish Volunteers holding the rank of Captain or Lieutenant and all Section Commanders and other Volunteers who seek qualification for the rank of Lieutenant, are hereby notified of the intention of Headquarters to proceed with the first qualifying examination. As already announced, the examination will be a test rather of practical experience and ability than of theoretical knowledge, and it will be necessary for candidates to have worked in Companies or Half-Companies trained according to the official Programme of Military Training, published in the IRISH VOLUNTEER of 23rd January, 1915.

2. All officers holding the rank of Captain and Lieutenant are ordered to present themselves for examination. Other Irish Volunteers who wish to present themselves for the examination must receive written recommendation from their Battalion Commandant, or where a Company is working independently, from their Company Officer. This written recommendation is to be presented or sent to the Chief of Inspection of the Irish Volunteers.

3. A pass in Examination A. qualifies an Irish Volunteer for the rank of Lieutenant and for admission to Examination B. Examination B., which will be held nine months after Examination A., will qualify an Irish Volunteer for the rank of Captain. Further examinations will be announced later.

4. Officers who fail to qualify at A. first examination may be allowed to retain their rank on probation pending the holding of a second examination.

5. There will be no written work in Examination A., and as much of the examination as possible will be carried on out of doors, by manoeuvres, staff rides, etc. The examination for each group of candidates will be held in general in the district of the Company or Battalion to which the candidates belong. Due notice will be given of the holding of each examination.

SYLLABUS.

I.—INFANTRY DRILL AND TACTICS.

PRACTICE.

Squad, Section, and Company Drill in close and open order. Candidates must be able to train and handle a Section and a Company in close and open order drill, with and without arms, in musketry exercises, fire control, etc. Credit will be given for the **manner** of giving commands and directions.

THEORY.

Duties in the field. Control of attacking and defending forces. Control of units acting alone. How to advance over open country. How to advance over close or broken country. How to advance under fire. When and how to take advantage of cover. When cover should not be taken. How to surmount obstacles, cross barbed wire, rivers, etc., without assistance from engineers. Fire control—passing of signals and commands; issuing and carrying out orders for sighting, elevation, and deflection; ensuring correct adjustment of sights; regulating the volume of fire; collecting and re-distributing ammunition of casualties; responsibility for replenishment of ammunition supplies in the firing line. The candidate will be required to handle his unit in the field against an enemy actual, outlined or imaginary.

II.—MUSKETRY.

1. Parts of the Rifle.
2. Care of the Rifle.
3. Use of the Rifle—Loading—Sighting—Aiming—Firing Positions—Running to Firing Positions.

III.—BAYONET AND PIKE FIGHTING.

1. Guard, points, and parries.
2. Advancing and retiring.
3. Single combat and fighting in squads.
4. Assault and defence.
5. Close-quarter fighting — shortening arms—use of rifle butt—tripping.

IV.—SCOUTING.

1. Reconnaisances — Patrols—Estimation of strength of enemy.
2. Use of scouts in covering march, attack, defence, and outposts.

V.—ENTRENCHMENTS.

1. Natural ground features in relation to skirmishing.
2. Conversion of these into good fire cover.
3. Various forms and means of entrenchment while under fire.

Note—Candidates taking Optional Subjects as prescribed in A. Programme of Military Training will get due credit therefor.

This Syllabus of Examination has been duly adopted by Headquarters.

THOMAS MACDONAGH,
Commandant,
Director of Training.

J. J. O'CONNELL,
Commandant,
Chief of Inspection.

Headquarters,
2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 1st December, 1915.

DUBLIN BRIGADE ORDERS WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 12th.

1. Battalion and Company officers will ensure the attendance at Headquarters' Special Classes of Signallers, First Aid and Ambulance Men, Engineers, and Armourers.

2. Training for sub-officers and selected men at Camden Row on Wednesday and Saturday 4 p.m.

3. Inspection of 2nd Battalion by Brigade Commandant at Father Mathew Park on Sunday. Assemble at 10.15. Full attendance essential. Cyclists to parade with machines.

4. Officers' meeting at Headquarters at 8 p.m. Saturday.

E. DE VALERA, Commandant,
Brigade Adjutant.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comaire Ġnóta Féinne Fáil ina nDúnpoirt tráthnóna D. Céadaoin an 1ad lá de'n mí seo agus an Ceann Cata Pádraic Mac Piarais ina Cathaoirleach orta.

Do connacthas ó na cuntasaib do fríoth go raib obair na dtimthirí agus na múinteoirí ag dul chum cinn go breagh ina háiteannaib ina bhfuilid fá láthair, mar atá, i gConntaethib Átha Cliath, Cille Manntáin, Cille Dara, Ceatharlach, Cille Choinnigh, Corcaighe, Luimnigh, na Gallimhe, an Chábáin, agus na Míde.

Do ceapadh comaire chum líon luath Conganta na Féinne do mhéadughadh le timthirí d'ainmniughadh chum ball do fholáthar.

Do léigh Riaraide na hOileamna Clár na Sgrúdughadh i gcomair Oifigeach Complacht agus a dubairt go raib sé molta ag an mBuidin Ceannuir. Do haontuigheadh agus do horduigheadh a chur i gcló.

Do hainmnigheadh daoine chum labharta i n-ainm na Féinne ar an mór-chruinniughadh tionólfar i dTeach an Aro-Mhaoir D. Máirt an 14ad lá chum curtha i n-aghaidh Cóimhrghríobála.

Dúnpoirt na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 1ad M. na N., 1915.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, the 1st inst., Commandant P. H. Pearse in the chair.

It appeared from reports to hand that encouraging progress was being made at the various centres of organisation and training in Cos. Dublin, Wicklow, Kildare, Carlow, Kilkenny, Cork, Limerick, Galway, Cavan, and Meath.

A scheme was adopted for increasing the membership of the Irish Volunteers' Auxiliary by the appointment of organisers who will be charged with the enrolling of members.

The director of training submitted the revised Programme of Examination for Company Officers which, having already been approved by the General Staff, was ratified and ordered to be published.

Speakers were appointed to represent the Irish Volunteers at the great Anti-Conscription Demonstration to be held in the Round Room of the Mansion House on Tuesday evening, the 14th inst.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 1st Dec., 1915.

Notes from Headquarters

AGAINST CONSCRIPTION.

A meeting of Dublin citizens to oppose Conscription—either by Act of British Parliament or by Economic Pressure—will be held in the Round Room of the Mansion House on Tuesday evening, December 14th. Representatives of the Irish Volunteers will address the meeting in addition to other speakers. All Dublin Volunteers should be there.

ORGANISING THE AUXILIARY.

A forward move has been made in the matter of the Auxiliary. Organisers of circles of ten are to be appointed, whose duty it will be to collect a minimum subscription of sixpence monthly from the members of their circles and otherwise to keep the Auxiliary in touch with Headquarters. Special Organisers' Cards will be issued, with spaces for ten names. Volunteers and others who are willing to act as Organisers should at once apply for authorisation to the General Secretary.

TRAINING SCHEMES.

Headquarters has at present as many organisers and organising instructors on the road as it is able to finance. Many of these men are working merely for their travelling expenses. It would be impossible to get better value for money than we have been getting from our organising staff. Ireland has never been better served than by the twenty devoted men to whom the danger-posts of organisers of the Irish Volunteers have been assigned. The existing staff is working at high pressure, and it would not be wise to increase either the strain on the men or the strain on the financial resources of Headquarters. Future organising and training schemes must to a large extent finance themselves. Application for organisers and instructors reach us every week from every part of Ireland. If the local people come together and guarantee an instructor's expenses Headquarters will supply an instructor. We have plenty of competent men, and we can supply instructors for as many such local schemes as are set going. The more the better.

CAVAN ON THE MOVE.

Public opinion in Co. Cavan is setting strongly in favour of the Irish Volunteers. Almost every town and many of the country villages have Volunteer Companies, large or small, which are perfecting themselves in the essentials of training. A County Board is being formed to co-ordinate and speed up the work.

GALWAY IS GAME.

Galway vies with Cork. In both these counties of the Gaedhealtacht the young men almost everywhere have taken to the work of military organisation and training with extraordinary aptitude. In the region of which Athenry is the centre nearly every able-bodied man is an Irish Volunteer. Curiously, the towns are less encouraging than the countrysides. Recent visitors to Galway have returned to Headquarters full of admiration for the spirit of the men in training and of respect for the degree of proficiency already attained.

EXAMINATION FOR OFFICERS.

A revised and simplified programme of Examination for Company Officers has just been issued. Examinations on the lines of this programme will shortly be initiated and will be proceeded with in the more highly-organised Brigade areas in succession. In addition to Company Officers, sub-officers and other men selected by their superiors as suitable for promotion will be admitted to the examination. The examinations will be regarded as a qualifying test for officership, and when the scheme is in full working order permanent commissions will be issued only to those who pass it. The tests applied will be practical tests in the handling and training of units.

AONACH NA NODLAG.

The great annual Xmas sale of Irish goods will open to-night in the Rotunda. Irish manufactured goods of every description will be on view. In addition, there will be a very interesting Art Exhibition. The Aonach Committee respectfully request all Volunteers to support Irish-Ireland by purchasing their goods at the Aonach during the next ten days, and to ask their friends to visit the stalls at the Aonach and see for themselves what Irish hands can do.

DUBLIN GAELIC LEAGUE.
HISTORY LECTURES.

The success which has attended the above was witnessed on Sunday night last, when Mr. Arthur Griffith lectured to an overcrowded house on "The Norman Invasion of Ireland."

The next of the series will be delivered on Sunday next, **12th inst.**, at 8 p.m., in the Gaelic League Hall, 25 Parnell Square, when Captain O'Connell will treat of "The Battle of Aughrim." The lecture, which will be illustrated by specially-prepared slides, will be a most interesting one. Admission—Season ticket, 2/6; single lecture, 3d.

Léabhar Drille Dóghlácaidh na hÉireann

(An Leanmhaint).

Cum Beaighneití do Scaoileadh.

Scaoilidh—Beaighneití.

A hAon. Cuirtear an gunna idir an dá ghlúin. Coimeádtar an dá fháil lena céile agus an meaigirín dífreach amach ón nduine. Beirtear gheim fa láimh dhéir ar dhornchlann an bheaighneit i dtreo go mbeidh na fuitini iompaighte amach. Cuirtear órdóg na láimhe clé ar fhring bolta an bheaighneit. Tarraingtear an gunna isteach cum an duine leis an dá ghlúin anntan agus luighteas ar an fhring. Árdaighteas an beaighneit tuairim órlaigh agus lena linn sin iompaighteas an ceann agus an dá fhúil ar thaobh na láimhe clé.

A Dó. Ar aon am leis an té bheidh ar thaobh na láimhe clé, árdaighteas an beaighneit ar a fhuidhchán. Leigtear síos sinn an bheaighneit ar thaobh na láimhe clé i dtreo go mbeidh an fáinne lairtiar. Cuirtear an beaighneit ina thuaill annsan (gan feuchaint síos) mar seo: tógtar an láimh dhearg agus, tarléis gheama do bheith fa láimh clé ar an dtruaill, cuirtear an beaighneit isteach fa thruaill.

A Trí. Ar aon am leis an té bheidh ar thaobh na láimhe clé, brúighteas an beaighneit isteach go daingean agus leagtar an lámh dhearg ar an mbanna íochtarach.

A Ceathair. Ar aon am leis an té bheidh ar thaobh na láimhe clé, sciobtar an lámh clé cum an taoibh clé. Iompaighteas an ceann agus na súile tharnair arís i dtreo go mbeidh an duine ag feuchaint roimis amach agus é dífreach mar bhead sé tarléis a ghunna "d'irliughadh."

NÓTA Nuair a deusfar an focal scaoilidh úsáidfidh sean an chlátáin clé trí choiscéim ar aghaidh tiocfaidh sé tharnair fa line nuair a bheidh an ceathamhadh athrughadh críochnaighte.

Ceartughadh.

Cuirtear "Fartaighidh beaighneití, a trí" in ionad "Ceangalaidh beaighneití, a trí" do bhí agam an treachtmhain seo ghabh thorainn.

Liam Ó Rinn.

Volunteer Happenings.

Secretaries of Volunteer Corps are requested to send in short reports for this column.

NEW CORPS NEAR ROSCOMMON.

On the 23rd ult., the Anniversary of the Manchester Martyrs, a meeting was held at Clockanveele Crossroads—midway between Athleague and Roscommon—for the purpose of commemorating the memory of the Martyrs. At the close of the meeting all "formed up," many of whom were armed, and marched to a field close by, where a corps of Irish Volunteers was formed. The name of the corps is Clockanveele (Central) Corps, and comprises the Athleague, Roscommon, and other districts. The Secretary is Sean O'Brasnain, of Carrowkeel.

LIMERICK CITY REGIMENT.

On Sunday, 14th ult., a very interesting lecture on "Ireland and War," was delivered at the Fianna Hall under the auspices of Cumann na mBan, by Mr. Michael O'Callaghan, B.C. The hall was packed to suffocation, even after all Irish Volunteers were asked to withdraw to make room for the visitors. The lecturer, who has a very clear, logical, and convincing style, kept the interest of his audience sustained in a remarkable manner while he searchingly surveyed the state and condition of Ireland during the wars of the last century. After the lecture several items of vocal and instrumental music were rendered by members of Cumann na mBan and the Irish Volunteers, and finally the Hon. Colonel and President of the latter, Col. James Ledden, appealed to the male portion of the audience in a short but forcible address to take their places in the ranks of the National Army. Thirty-five recruits were immediately enrolled in the I.V., and a good number also in Na Fianna Eireann. These, with another dozen, turned up on the following Thursday night for drill, and since then the Adjutant has been kept busy with a constant influx of new members.

Dublin Volunteers will regret to learn of the death of the late Captain Thomas F. Dolan, "C." Co., 1st Batt., which took place at Cork on the 2nd inst.

The officers of the 1st Batt., at a meeting of the Battalion Council held on Friday night, passed a vote of condolence to his relatives, and it was arranged that the officers of the Battalion should be represented at the funeral by one of their number.

A wreath has been forwarded by the officers and men of "C." Co., amongst whom the deceased officer was so deservedly popular. Beannacht De le n-anam.

A surprise mobilisation of the Belfast Regiment of the Irish Volunteers took place at midnight on Saturday at the Huts, Willowbank. The response was highly gratifying. At 11.55 the largest turn out that has taken place for some months past paraded under the command of Co. Officer D. McCullough. At 12.5 a detachment under the command of Capt. Haskin left to form an ambush party. The remainder having been formed into an advance guard under the command of Co. Commander P. Burns and Lieutenant McDowell, followed ten minutes later. The night being dark and the country close, the progress was necessarily slow. Undeterred by the inclemency of the weather or the occasional plunges into unseen ditches, the men stuck to their task with enthusiasm, and ultimately their efforts were rewarded by discovering and surrounding the ambush party.

The homeward march was enlivened by the singing of national songs, the men on being dismissed at 4 a.m. showing no signs of fatigue, but all expressed a desire for more frequent mobilisations.

Cumann na mBan

We have a very good report this week from Belfast. This branch seems to be most active, and should serve as a model to many a branch that is starting work. The Sec. writes: "I am glad to be able to report that upwards of twenty new members have joined us since our autumn session started. Up to this week we have been engaged in drilling and shooting, for the most part in the open air. This week we begin a new programme. Sundays at 11 o'clock a.m., we have rifle practice. On Sunday next, December 5th, we intend marching to the Divis Mountain to shoot at a considerably longer range. Tuesdays we have drill from 8 to 8.45, and First Aid from 8.45 to 9.30 p.m. in the Willowbank Huts. On Tuesday, December 7th, there will be a full roll-call. Every member must be present, except where it is impossible. We shall then know exactly how many we have. On December 14th we are having one of our series of public educational lectures in St. Mary's Minor Hall. On January 25th we have a Whist Drive and Rifle Raffle in aid of the Defence of Ireland Fund, after all expenses are paid."

We are glad to announce that Ballinadee has started a new branch of Cumann na mBan and has already 23 members. Tullamore is getting on very well, and bids fair to be a good strong branch. The Tralee Branch has been very active, and they have already finished their first set of First Aid Lectures. The Central Branch has decided to put off the concert and ceilidh which they intended to hold in December till the New Year, owing to the many engagements coming on in Dublin before Xmas in the national sphere.

DO IRISHWOMEN REALISE THEIR DUTY?

In many parts of the country the women are still inactive. Every district in Ireland (I believe) can boast of a Company of Volunteers, and these men have women relatives and acquaintances who are eager to forward the cause. Suppose the Irish Volunteers were forced into action to-morrow to defend themselves and their people against an enemy, what would happen? You would find these Irish women vieing with each other in eagerness to help the men by every means in their power.

But of what avail would this be? They would be undisciplined and untrained and not capable of rendering first aid or nursing, and would not be properly supervised. If these women undertake what we ask them to do, i.e., to organise and be prepared, then we shall have a trained and disciplined body of Irishwomen in the field properly equipped and

Against Conscription

ALL-IRELAND

PUBLIC MEETING

Mansion House, Round Room,

By kind permission of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor.

Tuesday, December 14th, 1915, at 8 p.m.

supervised. Already such an organisation is in existence, and has branches in England, Scotland, and all over Ireland. No Irishwoman should stand outside its ranks if she wants to help her country. Volunteers should encourage their women folk to join the local branch of Cumann na mBan, and where no branch exists, assist them to form one.

Write to General Sec., 2 Dawson Street, Dublin, for all information required as to joining or starting new branches. Among the subjects taught are:—First aid, home nursing, physical drill, stretcher drill, signalling and shooting.

Let us in God's name serve the cause of the one small nationality that counts.

---

céilí. céilí. céilí.

Craoh Mic Éil de Connrad na Gaeilge

At the Branch Hall, 26 Blessington Street.
On ST. STEPHEN'S NIGHT, SUNDAY 26th inst., at 8 o'clock.

Tickets—Single, 1/6; Double, 2/6.

Tickets at Branch or from Members.

FIANNA FAIL.

IRISH VOLUNTEER DANCE

Co. F., Batt. I.,
At 41 PARNELL SQUARE,
On **SATURDAY, 11th DECEMBER,**
Dancing at 9 p.m.
Tickets—Single, 2/6; Double, 4/6.

Special Mobilisation of Volunteers

and Friends ordered for **Monday, 27th Dec,** at 7.30 p.m., to reinforce F. C., 2nd Batt., who will occupy a very strong position, at

Foresters' Hall, 41 Parnell Square,

when Herbert Pim (A. Newman) will deliver an important address on

"How We Stand To-day in Ireland."

He will also contribute to the Concert Programme in his own inimitable style that stirring song,

"Rory of the Gael."

He will be supported by Brian O'Higgins, Miss Mollie Byrne, Sean Connolly, Miss Florrie Ryan, Capt. Ffrench-Mullen, Miss Lena McGinley, Capt. O'Reilly, McHale Dancers, Capt. T. McCarthy, and a host of Irish-Ireland Talent. Doors open at 6.45. Concert commencing at 7.30 p.m. sharp.

Prices of Admission, 2s., 1s., and a limited number of 6d. tickets.

FIRST AID CLASSES

For Members of Cumann na mBan, Thursday afternoon 4 to 5.30, beginning October 29th. Those wishing to attend should apply by letter to Hon. Secs., Cumann na mBan Executive, 2 Dawson Street.

Aonach na Nodlag

Annual Christmas Sale of Irish Goods.

EXHIBITION ROOMS, ROTUNDA, DUBLIN,

From Thursday, December 9th, to Saturday, December 18th,
2 p.m. till 10 p.m. each day.

IRISH ART, INDUSTRY, MUSIC AND SONG.

Grand Opening Ceremony to-night (Thursday) by Mr. Denis McCullough, Belfast, at 8 o'clock.

Admission 3d. Season Ticket, 1s.

"IRELAND OVER ALL."

Volunteers, Support Your Own

Rifle Cycle Clips, job line, 2/6 each; postage 3d.
Leather lined, 7/6; postage 3d.
Leather Ammunition Pouches, 9d and 1/- each; postage 3d.
Canvas Bags suitable for Kit or Fishing Bags, 9d, 1/-; postage 3d.
Irish-made Rifle Slings, 1/6; with swivels, 2/6; postage 3d.
Web Army Service Rifle Slings, 6d to 1/-; new, 2/6.
Air Pistols, 3/-; Slugs, 7d for 500.
King Air Guns, 3/6. B.S.A. No. 1 Air Rifle, accurate at 50 yards, £2 12s. 6d.
Stevens' ·22 "Favourite" Rifle, 27/6.
Stevens' ·22 Repeater Long Rifle, 40/-.
Army Revolver Holsters, secondhand, 1/6; postage 4d.
·22 Short Ammunition, 11/ per 1,000; long rifle, 14/-.
New Spurssolid Nickel, 2/6; postage 3d.
Sword Canes from 1/6; postage 4d.
American-made 12-bore Shot Guns, 23/6 each.
Military Clasp Knives, 6d. each.
Gent's Riding Saddles, 25/-.
Volunteer Belts—Harp design, 2/9; postage 3d.

GET OUR PRICE LIST—MARVELLOUS VALUE.

John Lawler & Son,
2 Fownes Street, Dame Street, DUBLIN.

GAELS—Where to get your **News, Stationery, Cigarettes,** General Fancy Goods, etc., etc.

O Faolain

35 LOWER DORSET STREET.

MRS. HEGARTY, Costumier, 93 Harcourt Street. Cumann na mBan Costumes a speciality.

"The National Student"

A MAGAZINE OF UNIVERSITY LIFE

FOR DECEMBER, 1915.

National Politics. . . .
Student Wit and Humour.

Price - Threepence.

1782——1913.

VOLUNTEERS' BOOTS.

Best ever produced for comfort and ease in marching. Made in my own workshops by skilled Irishmen, under Trade Union conditions.
Price **15/6.** Reduction for Companies.

J. MALONE,
67 NORTH KING STREET, DUBLIN.

VOLUNTEERS

Get Your New Overcoat from

L. DOYLE

2 TALBOT ST., DUBLIN

SPLENDID SELECTION OF RELIABLE IRISH MATERIALS AT REASONABLE PRICES.

For the Institution, the Mansion or the Cottage.

You are invited to inspect our stock of

CLOSE FIRE KITCHEN RANGES

before ordering elsewhere. We guarantee them to cook perfectly, and to be economical in fuel. Our prices are right.

GLEESON, O'DEA & Co., Ltd.,

21 & 22 CHRISTCHURCH PLACE.

Estimates free. Telephone: Dublin 261.

DUBLIN COLLEGE OF MODERN IRISH

20 KILDARE STREET.

IRISH Classes

Session Opens September 23rd.

Fee for Teachers - - 5/-
Fee for Non-Teachers - - 10/-

Syllabus from Registrar, 20 Kildare Street.

COURT LAUNDRY,

58a HARCOURT STREET, DUBLIN.
(Proprietor, H. C. Watson).
Telephone, 1848.
High-class Family Work.
Winners of Silver Medal for Fancy Ironing Work, and Diploma for Shirts and Collars at Manchester Laundry Exhibition, 1913.
Post Paid one way on orders of 2/6.
For Collars and Shirts only..

The Munster Furnishing Co.,

11 ST. GEORGE'S STREET, CORK.
JOHN JENNINGS, Proprietor.

All kinds of Household Furniture—Irish Manufacture.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

THE IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 54 (New Series). SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18th, 1915. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

Last week I dealt with Mr. Birrell's reply to Mr. Ginnell. I had already exposed the use which Dublin Castle made of Dr. Starkie. Mr. Birrell kindly clinched the nail by repeating the Nathan-Norway-Starkie formula with a slight change of words. The Castle plot against the Irish Volunteers was fully formed last March, if not earlier. It was this, to work up a special case against us on the good old lines of Parnellism and Crime, for the Government of Ireland is a continuity, and Birrell has to continue Balfour. The same old machinery is still available. Having decided on the sort of case that was wanted, instructions were duly circulated to procure the evidence at all costs. Mr. Birrell on December 9th was able to announce that "the evidence is now voluminous." It is supplied by such agencies as the policeman who took his notes in the dark, "not at the window but under the window," and the four policemen whose machine gun swearing failed to convince a bench of magistrates at Foynes. It is a wretched thing to think that Irishmen can be got to swear away the liberty of Irishmen, but their instructions come from the honest and honourable men who have to do the necessary work of English government in Ireland. It is a glorious system.

* * *

The object of the plot in which Mr. Birrell is engaged is to enable the Government to draw a line between Unionist Volunteers, supported by English money and by Mr. Birrell's Ministerial colleagues, and Irish Volunteers, opposed by Mr. Birrell and his colleagues from the first day of their formation. The object of the Unionist Volunteers, for which we have the word of their commander-in-chief, is to send to the Devil the Home Rule Act, to whose enactment Mr. Birrell is pledged, and Mr. Birrell has announced in the same Parliament that the loyalty

of these allies of his honour "has not been questioned." He has now been engaged for the best part of a year in collecting "evidence" which may enable him, when he finds it opportune, to declare the Irish Volunteers an illegal association, and to have their blood if they refuse to disband and yield up their arms.

* * *

All Volunteer associations in Ireland are illegal. The Ulster Volunteers are illegal, and can boast Sir Edward Carson's motto—"There are illegalities that are not crimes," to which may be added the counterpart, "There are legalities that are crimes." The National Volunteers under Mr. Redmond are illegal. We may even read of a Lord Lieutenant holding a review in Trinity College Park of another Volunteer Association, without troubling to have the law amended. Therefore if the Government strikes at the Irish Volunteers, or if Dr. Starkie or any other Castle instrument strikes at individual Irish Volunteers, it is not because the Irish Volunteers are an illegal body, but because they are politically obnoxious to a combination of Unionist and foresworn Liberal statesmen. The value of Mr. Birrell's "voluminous" evidence is proved by the fact that it is most of a year, or more, since he made up his mind to have the evidence he wanted.

* * *

Mr. Birrell's statement of December 2nd was rapidly followed by the long article, dated December 4th, which I reprint from the "Times." That article is not avowedly written from the Government standpoint, and a few phrases are introduced to give it the appearance of being written by an outsider. It is written, nevertheless, on behalf of the Government, partly to explain what it calls "the Government's attitude of vigilant inactivity," and partly to prepare and provide pretexts for a change of attitude and for "developments which would be highly undesirable at the present time." The writer of the "Times" article contrives to suggest that the Government has all the good will in the world for the destruction of the Irish Volunteers, and only wishes that the time and circumstances were more favourable. The destruction of the Irish Volunteers would mean placing Ireland once more at the complete mercy of the combination which enabled the Liberal Government two years ago to break its pledges to the Irish Party and the Irish electorate. It would lead, indeed, to far graver consequences for Ireland. Every million of added taxation imposed on Ireland means a further huge reduction of our population, and a further impoverishment of the remnant. The Irish Volunteers are Ireland's best political safeguard. They are also Ireland's best security against a new era of constitutional pillage which would involve in economic ruin not only Irish Nationalists, but nine-tenths of the purblind people who call themselves Irish Unionists.

* * *

The writer of the "Times" article is well informed from the Government standpoint, and when he says what is not true he does not say it accidentally. He would like to prepare the way for the suppression of the Irish Volunteers in view of "the recognised necessity of enforcing National Service in Ireland." "National Service" is the "Times" word for compulsory service in the British Army.

* * *

The British Prime Minister opened the recruiting campaign in Ireland by announcing in the Dublin Mansion House that what he asked for was "the gift of a free people." That was a year anda quarter ago. Where is the free people? The other day the head of the British Military Command in Ireland issued an edict under the Defence of the Realm Act forbidding everybody in Ireland to sell **or otherwise dispose of** any firearm or any ammunition for firearms, without the express permission of the said military commander. This is nothing short of an edict of slavery, purporting to reduce Irish citizens to the condition of slaves who are not allowed to acquire any kind of arms, even such as would be effective for the defence of their houses and lives.

* * *

The Government announces its programme through the "Daily Independent" in the following words: "The order is mainly intended to prevent arms and ammunition getting into the hands of Sinn Feiners or Irish Volunteers. It is understood that the military and police authorities are in possession of information of what may be regarded as grave events occurring behind the scenes." This may be quite true, behind the scenes in Dublin Castle. So far as I know, the "Independent" has not gone elsewhere for its information.

* * *

The finishing touch to this particular scene in the drama is supplied by a member of Parliament who has put down a question asking the Government how they intend to follow up their announcements against the Irish Volunteers. The questioner is one of those who are pledged to resist the Home Rule Act by armed violence!

EOIN MAC NEILL

Cumann na mBan

At the meeting of the Executive on Tuesday, the 7th inst., a resolution of sympathy with the relatives of the late Mrs. Fred Colum (B. Cassidy) was proposed by the President, Mrs. Wyse-Power, and seconded by Mrs. Tuohy, and the vote was passed in silence.

It has been decided that Cumann na mBan will hold a flag-day as soon as all arrangements can be made. Country branches who wish to know particulars will get the necessary information from the Sec., 2 Dawson Street, as soon as arrangements have been concluded.

We are glad to announce that a branch has been started at Athlone with a considerable membership. This week we can publish the November Report of the Cork Branch.

On Sunday, 7th, the first Field Day was held, which passed off very successfully. The casualties were not many. Only a few men got scratches in the fray. The open air practice was of great service, and they hope to repeat the experience early in December. On November 8th Mr. P. McDonnell gave a very interesting lecture on Patriotism.

On November 21st two members of the Committee were deputed to form a new branch in Ballinadee. The meeting held at Miss Walsh's house was very successful. Girls came from all directions, many of them distances of three and four miles. The objects and work of Cumann na mBan were explained, and a branch was then formed. Miss Coleman visited them subsequently to give the newly-formed branch a preliminary lecture on First Aid, and she hopes to continue the work after Xmas.

On Sunday, 28th, Cork celebrated the anniversary of the Manchester Martyrs. Cumann na mBan organised the Irish Flag Day Collection in conjunction with the meeting, and the result exceeded the most sanguine expectations of the Volunteers. A ceilidh was organised by the Cumann na mBan at An Grainan after the big concert in the City Hall, and thus a very happy day was brought to a close.

Several new members have given in their names, and squads and sections are being organised.

Strategic Points of the Irish Counties.

VI. ANTRIM—ANTRIM.

The military importance of the town of Antrim was abundantly proved by its having been made the scene of the fierce battle of the 8th of June, 1798. It arises from the fact that the town is so situated as to command all the main routes between Belfast and the western portion of the province of Ulster. For at Antrim all these routes converge on the narrow shelf of level ground between the mountains and the broad expanse of Lough Neagh. The main Belfast-Derry railway line comes from Carrickfergus Junction down the valley of the Six Mile Water to Antrim and then turns north by Ballymena to Coleraine; another line comes due north from Lisburn skirting the shore of the lake; and a line runs due west by Randalstown and Toome Bridge, linking up with the eastern parts of Derry and Tyrone. All these lines are paralleled by good roads which also converge at Antrim. In point of resources Antrim is not very remarkable, being only a small town; it possesses, however, certain agricultural produce in fair quantity, and Lough Neagh is, of course, celebrated for its large supply of fish.

VII. ARMAGH—PORTADOWN.

Every route into the western two-thirds of Ulster which is not controlled by Antrim is controlled by Portadown, which is a very important railway junction. Through it runs the main Dublin-Derry line by Dungannon and Omagh, as well as a subsidiary line by Armagh and Clones to Enniskillen and Cavan. But of course the most important line by far passing through Portadown is the main Great Northern line from Dublin to Belfast. Portadown being such a considerable junction, has naturally large railway supplies. As in the case of Antrim, all the railways are paralleled by roads; and in addition Portadown is midway by water (River Bann and Canal) between Lough Neagh and the sea near Newry. The town further posseses considerable industries, as does Lurgan, another large town only five miles away on the direct route to Belfast.

VIII. CARLOW—BAGNALSTOWN.

Bagnalstown is not a place of any great absolute importance, but any other point of County Carlow is of still less. A line of railway runs through it from Kildare—Carlow to Kilkenny, and there is a branch line by Borris to the junction of Palace, in County Wexford. None of these lines, however, are important communications. Similarly the roads — corresponding roughly to the railways, with an additional road running east to Newtownbarry—are only secondary. Some additional importance arises from the existence of the railway and road bridges in the neighbourhood over the Barrow, which even here is a river of some size.

IX. CAVAN—CAVAN.

Like Bagnalstown, Cavan can only be considered a secondary point; but it is easily the most central point in the county of the same name. It has also some importance by reason of its situation midway between Enniskillen and Mullingar on one of the very few railways in Ireland that run in a north and south direction. It is well linked up with all the surrounding districts by road, and the country around furnishes certain kinds of agricultural produce to a fair extent. The nature of the country around Cavan is, however, of considerable **tactical** interest. It is a maze of small hills, small valleys, and small lakes, and in parts is remarkably well wooded; in short, it offers rare opportunities for the activities of small bodies of irregular or poorly-trained troops. It is a country in which sound local knowledge would be of the very first importance.

X. CLARE—ENNIS.

Hardly any county in Ireland is so completely dominated by a central point within it as Clare is by Ennis. This town is situated almost in the centre of the county at the head of the Fergus estuary. Thus it lies on that line where the width of the county in a north and south direction is least, and at that point all the roads running east and west converge. Moreover, the pattern of lakes to the north in the direction of Corofin further narrows the extent of ground along which it is possible to pass. The Fergus estuary is navigable for small ships as far as Clare Castle, a couple of miles below Ennis. Ennis lies on the important branch of the Great Southern line which connects Limerick with Galway, Sligo, and all the West of Ireland; and the West Clare Railway is a narrow-gauge line connecting the town with the seaboard parts of the county.

XI. CORK—MALLOW.

Strategically Mallow is one of the most important points in Ireland. This has always been the case, but since the construction of the railways its importance has been doubled. Mallow is like a common inner door into Ireland if we regard the southern harbours as so many outer doors. The main road from Cork to the interior of Ireland passes through Mallow between the Boggeragh and Nagles Mountains; the main Great Southern line follows the same route. Both these communications cross the Blackwater at Mallow. In addition to this Mallow flanks the secondary road line by Fermoy, Mitchelstown, and Caher. The town is also the starting-point for the railway line to Killarney, which is the only railway into County Kerry; and there is also the important line by Fermoy, Lismore, Dungarvan to Waterford. Mallow has platforms, engine-houses, turntables, housing for rolling-stock, etc., etc., proportionate to all the needs of a railway junction of its importance.

IRELAND, IRELAND OVER ALL

A SONG OF THE IRISH VOLUNTEERS, 1915.

I.

Ireland, Ireland, dear old Ireland,
Ireland, Ireland, over all!
Leinster, Ulster, Connaught, Munster,
All together stand or fall.
Ireland claims our sole allegiance,
We know none but Ireland's call;
Though we love our brother nations,
Ireland's love is over all.

II.

From the coasts of northern Antrim
South to Kerry's rock-bound shore,—
Let our deeds, our lives proclaim it—
Ireland's ours for ever more.
Ages long she's lain in bondage;
Free her now from alien thrall,
Bring her back her ancient glories,
Ireland, Ireland, over all!

III.

Know no other flag but Ireland's,
Shed your blood for her alone;
God has marked her ocean frontiers,
God has named this land your own.
Stand united, Sons of Ireland!
'Gainst her foes an iron wall.
God save Ireland, Holy Ireland,
Ireland, Ireland, over all!

BRATAIR RIAGALTA.

MR. SHEEHY-SKEFFINGTON.

Mr. Sheehy-Skeffington has completed his lecture tour in the Eastern States, and is sailing on the 11th December from New York on the St. Louis, to arrive in Liverpool on December 18th. Sir Matthew Nathan is of opinion that his conduct in America and his propaganda there has "aggravated his original offence," and threatens to enforce the Cat and Mouse Act against him on his return: by this Act he is liable, his "licence" having expired, to re-arrest and imprisonment without trial. A British Secret Service agent in New York came to him with a proposal that if he dropped his "anti-British and anti-War" propaganda for the rest of his stay in the U.S.A. there would be "no trouble" on his return; if not, that he would not be permitted to land in the United Kingdom. The "deal," needless to say, did not come off. At a recent lecture in Worcester a copy of Mr. Skeffington's speech from the Dock fetched twelve dollars for the funds of the Irish Volunteers.

All literary communications for the IRISH VOLUNTEER should be addressed in future to

VOLUNTEER HEADQUARTERS,
2 Dawson Street, DUBLIN.

All communications re Advertisements to be addressed to the

IRISH PRESS BUREAU,
30 Lower Abbey Street, DUBLIN.

SUBSCRIPTION.—THE IRISH VOLUNTEER will be posted free to any address for one year at a cost of 6/6; for half a year, 3/3; for the quarter, 1/8.

Cheques and Postals should be crossed and made payable to the Manager, IRISH VOLUNTEER.

The Irish Volunteer

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18th, 1915.

On Organising

Every Corps of the Irish Volunteers should seriously take up the organising of the country between it and the nearest Corps. It will not do to leave all organising work to Headquarters. Headquarters has its hands very full, and it cannot organise the whole country without the co-operation of the corps that are already in active existence.

Every Sunday the Cork City Battalion has men out drilling small corps in half a dozen outlying places. We know fifty other corps in Ireland that could do the same thing, and do it well. There is hardly a corps in Ireland that could not do something towards further organising the country round.

Very rapid and satisfactory as is the progress of the Irish Volunteers at the present time, it could be made much more so if the officer in command of every corps will make it part of his business to get in touch with every village where even a section can be started. He could send a couple of his cyclists out once a week to organise and train them. He will find that so far from interfering with the training of his own corps, his own corps will grow more rapidly and do more work from the fact that the country all round is roused to action.

In the Volunteer movement Headquarters must provide the technical training, but the country must provide the enthusiasm and hard work necessary to transform the undisciplined mass into a national Army of Defence.

We look, therefore, to every company officer in Ireland to take up the organising of the districts round him, to make his corps a centre round which radiates a network of Volunteer Companies. This can be done, and ought to be done without delay. We must have a corps of the Volunteers in every parish in Ireland, and we will get them if our existing corps would each do its part in spreading the movement.

Hedge-Fighting for Small Units

It will sometimes be possible for a solitary cyclist sniper well posted on a road to enfilade transverse hedges from the road. This would help to frustrate turning movements by small parties in the immediate neighbourhood of the road. A good cyclist should be able to spring on his machine instantly and sprint off at top speed from such a position when once it became untenable.

Cyclists in case of necessity are not absolutely confined to roads: they can wheel their machines along paths and thus escape across country if cut off. In those circumstances—bar accident—they stand a good chance of getting away unmolested. If the cyclists are laying an ambush their safest way of retreat may be across country for some distance and then by cycle on a different road. In that case the best place for their machines to begin with would be the second road.

LEFT-HANDED SHOTS NEEDED.

In the case of delaying actions on roads the men will commonly have to fire round corners, gate pillars, etc. Clearly in such a case it will be necessary to have men able to shoot from the **left** shoulder —otherwise the men will be able to get cover on one side of the road only, whereas it may happen that the best cover and positions are on the other side. With this end in view it should be the aim to put all the left-shoulder men of a company into one section or squad so as to have them to hand when wanted. If none of the men fire naturally from the left shoulder a squad should be trained to do so.

ROADS LEADING INTO A POSITION.

There is one other matter of great importance in connection with Roads, which forms a special case. This is the case of roads leading from the direction of the enemy into a fortified position. If these were suitable and the enemy were prepared to face the losses entailed, it might be possible to drive forward strong columns along them into the heart of the position. This would need to be specially guarded against.

For this purpose the position should be so traced that the stretches of such roads leading to it would be long and straight, so that the advancing columns would be under fire for a long time. Picked shots in well-protected positions would be told off to command the approaches. Barriers of thorn bushes and barbed wire should be placed in front to hold up the attacking troops. No other barricades should be used, as they would simply mask the fire of the defenders.

Another useful defence is thus described in a recent account of Turkish defences in Mesopotamia. These are "trous de loup" or pits with spikes at the bottom. "These looked just like a honey-comb, only the tops of the holes were circular. They were four to five feet across, from seven to eight feet deep, with sharpened stakes in the bottom, and were shaped like an inverted cone. At the top the edges were about nine inches apart. Over one lot I saw there was a barbed wire entanglement." These would hold up a column under fire, and in all probability cause the assault to fail.

CHAPTER III.—DEFENDING POSITIONS.

MATERIALS.

When treating of defensive positions it will be suitable to preface the subject by detailing certain materials that although rough and ready, are nevertheless capable of being speedily put to good use for making or improving cover. When time serves quantities of the following should be accumulated. Plenty of opportunities for collecting them will arise, and should never be neglected:—

Wire—barbed if possible, for making entanglements and stiffening hedges. Even short lengths are useful. A supply of **staples** for fastening it should be provided.

Timber — For rivetting banks and flooring. **Nails** of all kinds.

Stones—All large stones of a couple of stone weight should be used. **Brushwood** for filling gaps in hedges, corduroying roads, etc. **Bushes**—Strong thorn

bushes for barriers and abattis. **Sods**—For rivetments and for facing rough walls to prevent splinters flying. **Sacks** are very important, being better than sandbags. They can be filled with earth, gravel, road metal, and are splendid material. They should be about half filled only. It is not necessary to choke or tie a sack if the mouth is carefully folded under it when being placed in position.

IMPORTANCE OF THE DEFENSIVE.

The present European War has emphasised to an enormous degree the advantages of the prepared defensive as a tactical system. Whether we are strategically attacking or not makes no difference. In that case judicious use of localities held on the defensive is the best means of strengthening to the fullest the force available for the counter-attack. Now, there is no country in the world in which a defensive position can be more easily prepared than in Ireland. In most other countries elaborate measures must be taken; the trenches must be traced and dug; supporting points must be properly provided; localities must be prepared for defence, and, in general, considerable trouble is entailed and much technical skill involved. In great part of Ireland, however, good defensive positions will be found ready-made, and much time and labour will be saved.

THE FIELD OF FIRE REQUIRED.

In one vital point the present war has modified former theories of defence in favour of the ordinary Irish terrain: field of fire is no longer the first requirement sought for. It is better to have a field of fire of 100 yards and to be invisible than to have one of 600 yards and to be an easy target for artillery. Cover from view has become more important than field of fire. Fire direction and control thus become simple matters, and all the officers and N.C.O.'s. have to do is to steady their men and make them keep their rifles flat.

Now, in Ireland the wide fields of fire formerly sought after would have been practically impossible to find. The country is so broken and cut up by fences, hedges, and walls that no extended field of fire would be obtainable. The proper use of firearms in Ireland consists of steady, careful aimed fire at short ranges. In short, a force well hidden behind a hedge with a level field of ordinary size in front is formidably posted. These conditions would constantly present themselves in Ireland without any special preparation at all.

LEVEL GROUND THE BEST.

A perfectly level terrain is the one best calculated to get the fullest results from the peculiar defensive capabilities of enclosed country. In level country the hedges obstruct view completely beyond the first hedge in each direction. On the other hand, a man posted on a hill can see into the fields in the plain, or a man in a plain can see the surface of the fields on a hillside—like butts to a target. A bank position behind the crest of a hill is the best in such a country. This compels the enemy to expose his infantry to your musketry and gives his artillery very little opportunity for observation. In the present campaign in France such positions have been held successfully on countless occasions by both sides.

PREPARING HEDGES.

When posting a firing line behind a hedge the appearance of the hedge on the enemy's side should not be changed at all. The hedge should be trimmed from behind at the bottom to enable the men to crawl right in under the bushes. They will then be able to fire from the front edge and will have a good view, while they will be quite hidden.

PRACTISING MAP-READING.

There are large numbers of Volunteer officers and N.C.O.'s. who are unable to read a map, strange as this may seem. The following hints will be found very useful by them. The best map of Ireland is the 1-inch Ordnance Map, which gives practically all natural features and land-marks:—

1. Having procured the best map of the district you can get hold of, go up on some fairly commanding height from which you can survey a good area of the country around.

2. Take out your watch and lay it flat on the palm of the hand, with the hour hand of the watch pointing to the sun. Halfway from the 12 o'clock figure to the hour hand is the true south—counting forward from twelve in the afternoon and back in the morning. Knowing the south, you can easily find the other cardinal points.

3. The top of the map is the North, the bottom is the South, the left-hand side the West, and the right-hand side the East. Spread the map flat so that its top corresponds to the North as you have ascertained it by the watch. This is called **orienting** the map.

4. Once you know how the map corresponds to the ground you can easily identify the places on it. At first you may find it takes time, but constant short spells of practice will speedily make you proficient. Half-an-hour spent each day in this way for a week will repay you well.

Nathanal Education.

The subjoined is the conclusion of the correspondence under above heading:—

19 Herbert Park,
Ballsbridge, 1st October, 1915.

DEAR DR. STARKIE—Writing to me on Sept. 13th in reply to my letter of August 31st in reference to Mr. O'Connell, of the Filemore Boys' School, Cahirciveen, you say: "Absolute equality of treatment is scrupulously observed by this department between the Irish Volunteers and the Ulster Volunteer Force, and, I may also say, the National Volunteers," and you add, "by the rules and practice of the Board, National Teachers are not permitted to connect themselves with any of these bodies." Since then I have been favoured with copies of the correspondence which has passed between the Commissioners and the manager of the school.

On June 18th Mr. Dilworth, Secretary to the Board, wrote to the manager, Very Rev. Canon Browne, requiring from the teacher, Mr. O'Connell, "a statement regarding his alleged connection with the Irish Volunteers." On June 24th Mr. O'Connell supplied Canon Browne with a written statement, which was forwarded to the Board. In this statement Mr. O'Connell acknowledged his connection with the Irish Volunteers, "having first satisfied myself," he writes, "that there was nothing contrary to the letter of the spirit of the Rules of the Commissioners." His statement concludes with this request: "If in doing so I have infringed any rule of the Commissioners, I should be obliged if you would kindly ascertain from the Education Office what particular rule I have violated and wherein exactly I have done so."

In view of the words of your letter to me with regard to the "rules and practice of the Board," this was evidently a reasonable and proper request. The Commissioners, however, instead of complying with it, wrote intimating the stoppage of Mr. O'Connell's salary "until he had satisfied them that he had ceased all connection with the Irish Volunteers."

I suggest that Mr. O'Connell was entitled to be informed under what rule his conduct was impugned, and that to withhold from him this information and at the same time to order the stoppage of his salary was such a proceeding as must bring the Board's administration into disrepute among fair-minded people.

In a further letter of July 10th Mr. O'Connell shows that, during the eighteen months of his connection with the Irish Volunteers, his manager had certified in writing to the Board once in every three months that the rules and regulations of the Board had been observed by Mr. O'Connell, who now repeats his request to be informed what rule he has broken. He also points out that the Commissioners must have been aware that many teachers had been "taking an active and prominent part in the Volunteer movement," and asks "why was there not a general warning issued by the Comsioners."

On July 27th Mr. Bonaparte Wyse writes on behalf of the Board to Canon Browne, acknowledging Mr. O'Connell's second request to have the rule indicated under which his conduct had been impugned. Instead, however, of indicating the rule, Mr. Wyse writes that "the Commissioners regard his (Mr. O'Connell's) action in taking part in the work of an organisation which is openly hostile to the Government of Ireland and to recruitment for the forces of the Crown as most improper and unbecoming to a National Teacher, and as very much more serious than a mere violation of any rule of their

code," and they now proceed to threaten Mr. O'Connell with "summary dismissal."

This letter discloses an extraordinary state of things. It admits at length that Mr. O'Connell is not charged with any violation of rule, but charges him with an offence "very much more serious than mere violation of any rule," and describes this offence as "connection with the Irish Volunteers." This admission and accusation cannot be reconciled with your statement to me that "by the rules and practice of the Board, National Teachers are not permitted to connect themselves with any of these bodies (the Volunteer Organisations)."

You are aware that "open hostility (of any unlawful kind) to the Government of Ireland and to recruitment for the forces of the Crown" comes under the cognisance of the ordinary law, and that the duty of investigating any charge of the kind comes in the first instance and necessarily upon the officers of the law. If there is a foundation for such a charge against any person or persons, it must be gross impropriety for the officers of the law to shirk their own duty and to allow the discharge of it to be transferred to the Commissioners of National Education. It must be a no less grave impropriety under the circumstances for the Commissioners to take upon themselves a duty which belongs to the officers of the law. The Government has tribunals for the investigation and punishment of such offences as the Board has been induced to charge against the Irish Volunteers. The Board itself is not such a tribunal, and has no competency to pronounce judgment and inflict penalties in matters admittedly outside the scope of its own rules, much less to pronounce judgment in a general way on the legality of this or that public organisation. It is not competent to hold a judicial investigation upon evidence into questions of "open hostility to the Government of Ireland and to recruitment for the forces of the Crown," and it is still less competent, without proper investigation and hearing of evidence for and against, to pronounce a decision on such questions and to award a penalty.

The action taken by the Board concerns the liberty of others, including myself, to be associated in a certain way with Mr. O'Connell and other National Teachers, as well as their liberty to be associated with us. The public is entitled, therefore, to be informed on what ground you have arrived at the unwarranted decision that the Irish Volunteers are "openly hostile to the Government of Ireland and to recruitment for the forces of the Crown." If this is merely a political opinion held by members of the Board, then the mere pronouncement of such an opinion by the Board is, to say the least, a grave impropriety, and is calculated to vitiate the relations which should subsist between the Board of National Education and the National Public. Any penal action taken in consequence by the Commissioners can only be an enforcement of their political opinions in the place of the administration of the stated rules and settled practice of the Board. The Board's threat of "summary dismissal" on the charge proposed cannot be reconciled with the terms of your letter to me.

Your stetement to me, again, cannot be reconciled with the next letter of the Board to Canon Browne, which I shall cite. On July 31st Mr. O' Connell writes "to ask is it permissable for him to join the National Volunteers under the leadership of Mr. John Redmond." On August 13th Mr. Bonaparte Wyse replies: "The question whether a teacher may be permitted to join the National Volunteers under the leadership of Mr. John Redmond has yet to be decided by the Commissioners."

Here again, instead of rules and practice, we find the Commissioners sitting as a political tribunal, deciding according to their political lights and leanings in one case, and announcing that another case "has yet to be decided"—both cases arising on questions of conduct admittedly outside the scope of the Commissioners' rules. If such decisions can be enforced it becomes evident that National Teachers, and in a certain measure the public, are at the mercy of the political feelings entertained for the time being by members of the Board.

Following this correspondence, I have to request that you will have the goodness to bring the matter definitely before the Commissioners, to enable them to make it clear to the public, as well as to managers and teachers, that no teacher will be prevented on purely arbitrary grounds or grounds of opinion from being connected with the Irish Volunteers, and that no unfair, improper, and unconsidered discrimination will be allowed to shape the Commissioners' attitude as regards the Irish Volunteers, the National Volunteers, and the Ulster Volunteers. —Yours faithfully,

EOIN MAC NEILL.

W. J. M. Starkie, Esq., L.L.D.,
Resident Commissioner,
Board of National Education.

Office of National Education,
Marlborough Street,
Dublin, 4th October, 1915.

DEAR PROFESSOR MAC NEILL—My letter of September 13th accurately represents the attitude of the Board on the question you raise as defined by a resolution on August 31st last. You will observe that the letters of Mr. Wyse to which you take exception were antecedent to that date.—Yours faithfully,

W. T. M. STARKIE.

Professor John Mac Neill,
19 Herbert Park,
Ballsbridge,
Dublin.

Filemore B.N.S.,
Cahirciveen, 25/10/'15.

REVEREND SIR—The Commissioners of National Education have now, it appears, decided that their teachers are not to be allowed to become members of any of the Volunteer organisations in this country. Had they come to this decision when the Volunteers were first started in Ireland it would have prevented my dismissal and all the trouble attendant thereon.

But I saw that teachers were not prevented from becoming members of the Ulster Volunteers; and the Board expressly stated to you in their letter of the 31st August last that they had not yet decided whether it was allowable for teachers to become members of the National Volunteers, or, in other words, that they had not so far forbidden membership of that body.

To me this appeared unfair differentiation. I could not see or understand why the Commissioners should concede to one set of teachers a right or privilege which they denied to another. I considered that I had as good a right to my opinions and was as much at liberty to translate these opinions into action as any other teacher in the Board's service. I objected to distinctions being made, and claimed that all should be put on the same level of equality.

It appears that this has now been done, and the justice of my claim has been admitted. But I was dismissed from my position in ignorance of the fact that the Board had in the meantime made a General Order, or what was equivalent to a General Order, on this question of teachers' connection with Volunteer bodies.

Teachers now in the Board's service are aware of the existence of this order; they know that it applies equally to all the different Volunteer organisations. None can feel aggrieved then at the application of the rule to himself when he knows that it is impartially employed all round. Those teachers then enjoy an advantage which was denied to me.

I very respectfully ask that you would point out to the Commissioners how very unfairly I was dealt with, and how I was taken at a disadvantage, in having all knowledge of this decision of the Commissioners withheld from me when my dismissal took place.

Under these circumstances I claim re-instatement in my school, with salary without intermission, so that my case may be re-opened and again considered, and in order that I may be placed on a footing of equality with every other teacher in the employment of the Board and given an opportunity of complying with the general order of the Commissioners.—I am, reverend sir, your obedient servant,

JEREMIAH O'CONNELL.

Very Rev. P. Canon Browne, P.P., V.F.,
Cahirciveen.

Co. Kerry—12701, Filemore B.N.S.
27th October, 1915.

REVEREND SIR—I am directed by the Commissioners of National Education to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th inst., enclosing a communication from Mr. Jeremiah O'Connell, in which he furnishes a statement respecting his non-compliance with the requirement of the Board in reference to his connection with the Irish Volunteers, and requests re-instatement as teacher of the above-named school antecedent to his ceasing his membership of the body referred to.

In reply I am directed by the Commissioners to inform you that they cannot accede to Mr. O'Connell's request, but that should he furnish them immediately with evidence that he has ceased all connection with the Irish Volunteers they will be prepared to consider the question of his reinstatement as a national teacher and the recognition of service given by him in the Filemore School since the 25th September, the date from which salary was withdrawn.—I am, reverend sir, your obedient servant,

W. J. DILWORTH,
Secretary.

Very Rev. P. Canon Browne, P.P., V.F.,
Cahirciveen.

DUBLIN BRIGADE.

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 19th.

1. Special Classes as usual.
2. Training for Sub-Officers and selected men at Camden Row on Wednesday and Saturday, 4 p.m.
3. Lecture by Commandant O'Connell for **all** Officers of Brigade at 7 p.m. at Headquarters. Hour altered to enable officers to attend Aonach.
4. The examination for Officers, Sub-Officers, and selected men of the Brigade will be held during the month of January.

EAMONN DE VALERA,
Brigade Adjutant.

SYLLABUS OF EXAMINATION.

In the syllabus printed last week there were a few misprints. The only one that is worth correcting is "nine" for "some" in paragraph 3.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comáirle Ghnóta Féinne Fáil ina nDúnphort tráthnóna D. Céadaoin, an 8 ad lá de'n mí so, agus an Ceann Cata Pádraic Mac Piarais ina chathaoirleach orta.

Do glacadh na gnáth-thuarascbála.

Do hainmnigeadh roinnt timthiri agus múinteoiri nua.

Thug Riaraidhe an Oirdhuighe cunntas uaidh ar Shluagh Chorcaighe agus ar Shluagh Chiarraighe. Cúig Cata agus reacht gCompleachta déag ar dá fichid líon Sluaigh Chorcaighe. Ceithre Cata i Sluagh Ciarraighe. Thug Ceann an Infhúchta mion-chunntas uaidh ar ghluaiseacht na hoibre san oirthear ó dheas agus go mór-mhór ar stáid Sluaigh Ioc gCarmain.

Fríoth sgéala go rabhthar tar éis Bord Conntae do chur ar bun i gConntae an Chábáin agus ceann eile i gConntae Cill Choinnigh.

Do rosruigeadh go dtionólfar an Chomáirle Choitcheann D. Domhnaigh, an 19ad lá, mí Meadon Lae.

Dúnphort na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 8 M. na N., 1915.

FORFÓGRA COITCHEANN.

Bíodh a Chárta Baill ag gach Óglách d' fiannaibh Fáil ar gach sluaigeadh, agus é réidh chum a thairbeánta d'aon oifigeach ceannuir dá n-iarrfaidh air é.

PÁDRAIC MAC PIARAIS.
Ceann Cata,
Riaraidhe an Oirdhuighe.

Dúnphort na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 8 M. na N., 1915.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, 8th inst., Commandant P. H. Pearse in the chair.

The usual reports were received.

Several additional organising instructors were appointed.

The Director of Organisation made a report on the Cork and Kerry Brigade Districts. In the former there are now five organised Battalions, with a total of fifty-seven active Companies. The Kerry Brigade is organised into four Battalions. The Chief of Inspection made a detailed report on the progress of organisation and training in the South-East, more especially in the Wexford Brigade District.

Reports were received of the formation of County Boards in Co. Cavan and Co. Kilkenny.

It was decided to summon a meeting of the General Council for Sunday, 19th inst., at 12 noon.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 8th Dec., 1915.

GENERAL ORDER.

Every Volunteer will have his membership card at every parade, and will be prepared to produce it at the request of any superior officer.

P. H. Pearse,
Commandant,
Director of Organisation.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 8th Dec., 1915.

Notes from Headquarters

THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

The first meeting of the new General Council will be held on Sunday, the 19th inst, at 12 noon. Many counties which were not represented at last year's Council are represented on the new Council, the organisation having extended itself amazingly since the first Council was elected. There should be a full attendance at the forthcoming meeting, the business of which will be important.

TWO NEW COUNTY BOARDS.

Cavan and Kilkenny have formed County Boards. This makes six new County Boards in about two months. The formation of a County Board indicates that the movement in the area concerned has reached a sufficiently forward state to make common action between the various Companies possible. The County Boards in their turn will prepare the way for Brigade Councils, which come into existence when the county units are completely organised as military forces.

CORK AND KERRY.

A recent report on the Cork Brigade shows five organised Battalions and fifty-seven active Companies, of which a large number are not yet grouped into Battalions. Six other Companies are in process of formation. This is splendid. In Kerry the groups are necessarily less numerous, but the spirit is equally good. A forward move in the organisation of Kerry is projected.

THE SOUTH-EAST.

The Waterford City Company has made great progress in the face of peculiar difficulties. In the County too there is now a stir our way. Kilkenny, City and County, as already noted, are working up. The three Battalion areas of the Wexford Brigade have splendid material and the men are well armed. More field work—combined manoeuvres between Company and Company and occasionally between Battalion and Battalion—would benefit the Brigade. Indeed more field work would do all our Brigades and Battalions and Companies good. Training is what tells in the end. It is more important than numbers, and almost as important as arms.

JOIN THE AUXILIARY.

If you can't be in the Volunteers you ought to be in the Auxiliary. Why? Because it is the best way to help the Volunteers. How does it help the Volunteers? First, it gives them your moral support, which is something. Secondly, it gives them your financial support, which is better. Thirdly, it links you with them for mutual defence, as against Conscription and Economic Pressure. These are three solid reasons. There is no use in pretending that you are a friend of the Volunteers unless you join hands with them, either in the fighting line or in the reserves.

THE AONACH

The Great Irish Industrial Exhibition which has now been in progress since the 9th inst. will close to-night (Saturday, 18th) at 10 o'clock, and those who have not yet paid it a visit would be well rewarded by doing so during the short time that remains. The Aonach Committee, who have the use of the Concert Halls up to Wednesday night next, are arranging a great programme for next week. On Monday night there will be two dramatic performances, one in Irish and one in English, the former being Piarais Beaslaoi's excellent little play, "Fear na Milliun Punt," and the latter Miss Lily M. O'Brennan's beautiful little operata, "A May Eve in Stephen's Green," which deals with the bust of Clarence Mangan in Stephen's Green. In addition vocal and instrumental items will be contributed. On Tuesday night the Rev. Michael O'Flanagan, C.C., late of Cliffoney, Co. Sligo, will deliver a lecture entitled "How to Feed the Irish," and will be followed by a programme of vocal and instrumental items. Father O'Flanagan, who is one of our greatest national orators, may be relied on to deal with his subject in an eloquent and trenchant manner, and as there is sure to be a huge attendance, those wishing to be present should make it a point to secure their tickets in advance. They may be purchased at the Aonach up to closing time on Saturday night. All other particulars will be found in our advertising columns.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Volunteers who have recently received a typed circular are requested to re-read paragraph 8, which is of general application.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS.

NA FIANNA EIREANN

APPOINTMENTS.

The following appointments have been sanctioned by the Headquarters Staff:—

DUBLIN BATTALION.

Capt. Eamonn Martin to be Commandant.

Capt. Sean Mac Aodha to be Vice-Commandant.

Lieut. Philip Cassidy to be Battalion Adjutant.

Lieut. James Pounch to be Battalion Quartermaster.

The Sluagh Commanders to be as follows:—

An Claud Sluagh (Lower Camden St.)—Lieut. Philip Cassidy.

An Dara Sluagh (Dolphin's Barn)—Lieut. Herbert Mellowes.

An 3adh Sluagh (Inchicore)—Lieut. Edward Murray.

An 4adh Sluagh (Ranelagh)—Lieut. Niall Mac Neill.

An 5adh Sluagh (Merchant's Quay)—Lieut. Garrett Holohan.

An 6adh Sluagh (N. Frederick St.)—Commandant Sean Mac Aodha.

An 7adh Sluagh (Blackhall St.)—Lieut. John McLoughlin.

An t-8adh Sluagh (Fairview)—Lieut. L. Mac Ionnraic.

An 9adh Sluagh (Dollymount)—Lieut. Padraig O'Daly.

Signed,
PADRAIC O'RIAIN.
Righ-fheinnidhe.

Headquarters,
12 D'Olier Street, Dublin.

TESTS AND BADGES.

The following regulations relating to proficiency tests in and badges for Signalling, Musketry and First Aid have been approved of by the Headquarters Staff:—

REGULATIONS.

1. The tests will be conducted under arrangements to be made by the Director of Training.

2. All the proficiency badges are of standard design manufactured to the order of the Headquarters Staff. They are intended for use of Fianna only, and can be obtained only from Headquarters.

3. The wearing on the Fianna uniform of badges other than the official badges is prohibited.

SIGNALLING.

4. Before being classified as entitled to wear the signaller's badge, Fianna must pass the following test:—

Send and receive a message in the semaphore and Morse systems of signalling by flag. Not fewer than twenty letters per minute. Degree of accuracy 95 per cent. in both cases.

MUSKETRY.

5. Before being classified as entitled to wear the musketry badge Fianna must pass the following tests:—

(a) Score not less than 60 per cent. in the following practices, using Fianna ·22 bore rifle and standard fixed Bull's Eye target. Distance one hundred yards:

5 rounds deliberate fire, lying.
5 rounds rapid fire, lying (45 seconds allowed).
5 rounds deliberate fire, kneeling.
5 rounds rapid fire, kneeling (45 seconds allowed).

(b) Know how to fire at moving objects and how to fire during wind.

(c) Judge distance of eight objects up to eight hundred yards within 20 per cent. mean error.

i. This test will be conducted on unfamiliar ground, half the objects consisting of skirmishers and half of natural objects marking fire positions such as would be used on service.

ii. A minute will be allowed for each estimate reckoned from the moment when the object is pointed out or a shot is fired to draw attention to the position of the object.

iii. The observers will record their estimates in writing in multiples of fifty yards.

FIRST AID.

6. Before being classified as entitled to wear the first aid badge Fianna must know:—

(a) How to apply the triangular bandage to any part of the body, (b) various methods of arresting hemorrhage, (c) how to treat fractures and dislocations, (d) what to do in cases of poison, (e) methods (including Schafer's) of artificial respiration, (f) handseats and other methods of carrying.

Signed,
SEAN MAC AODHA,
Director of Training.

Headquarters,
12 O'Olier Street, Dublin.

NOTES ON TRAINING.

The system of training drafted by Commandant Sean Mac Aodha and ratified by the Headquarters Staff ought to be faithfully carried out by every Sluagh Commander in the Fianna. The first course covers twelve evening parades, and includes instruction in scouting, musketry, signalling, first aid, drill, and physical culture. Each parade is timed for an hour and a half, and each lecture or lesson lasts only twenty minutes.

As most Sluaghte have two parades weekly, it will be seen that the first three courses of six weeks each can be completed before the end of next spring. These courses are almost entirely confined to indoor instruction, but lead up to the more important work in the field. Although it is quite true one cannot learn scouting in a drill hall, yet it is equally true that, without that preliminary knowledge which can best be taught in the class room, little progress can be made in the field.

In addition to the usual all-round instruction, the Sluagh Commanders should encourage their boys to specialise in at least one particular branch of Fianna work, to secure a proficiency badge. The three badges already sanctioned by the Headquarters Staff are: Musketry, Signalling, and First Aid. Badges for proficiency in other branches of Fianna work will be announced later.

* * *

In these columns I will deal from week to week with one or more of the subjects in the week's program laid down in the course issued by the Director of Training.

* * *

Next week I will deal with the "Duties of Scouts" and "Training in Observation."

PADRAIC O'RIAIN.

THE

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 55 (New Series). SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25th, 1915. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

One or two instances of what may be called unwise impatience among Irish Volunteers have come to my knowledge. When I advise patience under great evils, it is not that we should expect our country to go suffering these evils for ever, but rather that through the patient endeavour and tenacious determination of her children she may be relieved from her wrongs as speedily and as completely as possible. Impatient action, especially of a detached and sporadic kind, may be a way of relieving this man's or that man's feelings while delaying our country's deliverance, we do not know for how long. Now, no man has a right to seek relief for his own feelings at the expense of his country.

• • •

Impatience is sometimes caused by the sight of anti-Irishism flaunting itself under license and encouragement in the face of the people. We feel that the conduct of this or that person deserves punishment. What if it does? We are not appointed the administrators of either Divine or human justice. While we hate tyranny and injustice, let us not fear them. They are working out their own destruction. Day by day they are educating the Irish people. If you or I are stirred to indignation, remember that others who were blinded for a time are getting their eyes opened by the same facts that are making us indignant.

• • •

"Omnia honeste et secundum ordinem fiant." Let all things be done honourably and in a regular and disciplined way. We have many enemies, many factious opponents, many undecided onlookers. Any act of rash violence will be used to the great injury of the national cause. Especially should we guard ourselves against making enemies of our own people, and all the people of Ireland are our own people. Nothing can be for Ireland's advantage that is not for Ireland's honour. If we love our country, her honour must be sacred to us.

• • •

We have convicted our enemies of trampling upon law and plotting the destruction of order. Law and order and loyalty are words which in Ireland and in regard of Ireland have been debased by every charlatan and soiled by all ignoble use. In any true and honest sense, we Irish Volunteers are the defenders of law and order and loyalty. There is no reason why we should be impatient, but rather that we should go forward confidently. Our conscience is clear. Our cause is good. Our purpose is unclouded. Let us fulfil the duty we have taken up, and while we do so, let us be cheerful and lighthearted. The happiest men in Ireland this Christmas should be the men of the Irish Volunteers.

• • •

The anti-conscription meeting in the Mansion House was the greatest public meeting held in Dublin since the inaugural meeting of the Irish Volunteers two years ago. The Irish capital has shown its mind. The two largest halls in the Mansion House were filled to the last place, and many failed to find room. The audience, or rather the two audiences, were orderly and unanimous. Entrance was absolutely free to all-comers. The stewards had nothing to do except to find places for the crowd.

• • •

It was remarkable that nearly all the speakers laid most stress on fighting the sort of conscription that works by economic pressure. Conscription by economic pressure is too roundabout a phrase. The plain name for it is conscription by starvation. That sort of thing is criminal conspiracy, whoever may be mixed up in it. It is a crime of inexpressible meanness. When the Registration Act was under discussion, it was not applied to Ireland, the Government declaring that all the necessary information could be obtained in Ireland through official channels. That being so, what is the meaning of applying to employers to give the same information in duplicate, if it is not to induce employers to bring "economic pressure" to bear? I warned employers at the meeting, and I warn them again, not to be induced to lay the foundation for a class war. If I wanted to see an implacable feud created between employers and employed, or unemployed, I would regard this economic pressure policy with feelings of exultation.

• • •

Now it turns out that my diagnosis of Dr. Starkie's attack of political fever was quite correct. He caught it from Sir M. Nathan. In reply to Mr. Ginnell, the Chief Secretary says on December 13th: "In a communication addressed to the Secretaries to the Commissioners of National Education by the Under Secretary on the 15th June, 1915, attention was called to the fact that the teacher referred to," and so on. The egregious Hicks of the Kinsella prosecution set the Castle in motion, the Castle appointed Dr. Starkie to do police duty for Hicks, and Dr. Starkie, like Magistrate Drury when invited to intimidate, said "Indeed I will," and on the 18th June he opened fire on the Irish Volunteers from behind the secure fortifications of Tyrone House. Shame for the Irish Volunteers to be hostile to a regime in which Dr. Starkie plays such a noble part!

• • •

To another question by Mr. Ginnell the Chief Secretary answered: "The evidence that the Irish Volunteers have endeavoured to foment disloyalty in Ireland is voluminous." Hardly yet so voluminous as the evidence at the Pigott Commission, or even as the evidence of the Crossmaglen Conspiracy. However, Mr. Birrell is progressing, and may yet show the Irish people once more the stuff that "our sincere friends" are made of. His evidence, he tells us, consists in part of "proceedings against officers and organisers" of the Irish Volunteers. Mr. Devlin will see that "these senseless prosecutions" have a meaning after all, and Mr. Redmond will figure as a mainstay of a Government in Ireland for the suppression of Irish liberty.

• • •

For the first time in history, Ireland has produced an Anti-pope. The Rev.

Dr. O'Doherty, C.C., has laid down the duty of Catholics "to be true to Holy Church." The vast majority of his fellow-priests in Dublin and throughout Ireland have no intention of taking their duty from the teaching of the new Anti-pope.

* * *

I have no acquaintance with this new Doctor of the Church, but I was once well acquainted with Canon O'Leary, of Dingle, and regret to see a report of a meeting in Dingle over which he presided. The meeting was nominally held for the purpose of Recruitment, but no recruits are reported, and the Press account shows that the proceedings were a carnival of vituperation of the Irish Volunteers. Kerry, like Dublin, will bring in its verdict in due time. The Canon declared that the object of the meeting was to keep the Huns and the Turks out of Ireland. I have never heard that the Turks took any special interest in Ireland beyond sending a large sum of money to relieve the Irish Famine of 1847, when the people of Kerry were dying like flies, and when the Government that brought about the Famine was helping to deprive the country of food. Of course that was very long ago, and the British statesmen of our time are not the ruthless scoundrels of seventy years ago.

* * *

Encouraged by Canon O'Leary's presence in the chair, one Mr. Denis Reidy, of Castleisland, declared that Mr. Redmond had won Home Rule, and that those who disagreed with him were "cowards, humbugs, and little blackguards," moreover, that they were "cowards who disrespected their religion, their country, and their race," and concluded with an eloquent peroration "calling upon all right-thinking Irishmen to stand by those who had won them their liberty, to extend their support to those who were giving their blood to maintain that liberty, and to ignore the cranks, the humbugs, and the bulavaun bakes." The result of this advice was that the Dingle people ignored Mr. Reidy and his fellow-orators.

* * *

Sergeant-Major O'Rahilly, of the Connaught Rangers, spoke next. He said that Egan O'Rahilly was his proud ancestor, and was a nephew of Myles the Slasher, who died for Ireland at the Bridge of Finea. He said that the young men who would not listen to him "were hypnotised and carried away from the path of their fathers by ingenious individuals for the lucre of lusty gold." The Canon continued to preside. "Their leaders are employed in Government departments, but they would soon be turned out of those departments," and the recruiting officer then proceeded to mark down a man for Sir Matthew Nathan's fire. He said the "Sinn Feiners" were on the side of the Dark Demon, and the Angel of Liberty was on the other side. "Yes, if Myles the Slasher, Robert Emmet, Wolfe Tone, and Lord Edward Fitzgerald were that day alive they would be on this platform helping under the Very Rev. and distinguished Chairman to procure their help to go and strike a blow for Ireland's sake and the cause of justice." He said the "Sinn Feiners passed a resolution congratulating Germany on what they called a glorious achievement," the sinking of the Lusitania. He said, "Remember that Ireland is now a new Ireland, restitution has been made for the wrongs done us in the past, and the teachings of our Holy Faith is to forgive as we should wish to be forgiven, **especially where restitution is made.**"

* * *

Mr. T. O'Donnell, M.P., spoke next. "He was more than pleased that they had the Very Rev. Chairman with them there that day." Mr. O'Donnell then completed the process of boxing the compass in Irish politics. The once out-and-outer denounced Desmond Fitzzgerald, now undergoing six months' imprisonment, and Ernest Blythe, who was recently in prison. Yet we have been told that the leader who sent Mr. O'Donnell to the meeting and the Party of which Mr. O'Donnell is a member passed a resolution condemning the action of the Government in imprisoning Ernest Blythe. We can now understand why no notice was taken of the Party "protest" or of Mr. Devlin's protest against the "senseless prosecutions." Canon O'Leary, of Dingle, was all this time in the chair.

* * *

Mr. O'Donnell, M.P., went a stage farther, farther even than the recruiting sergeant-major, and named the man who should "soon be turned out" of employment. Mr. O'Donnell is having his time. He knows well that he is now a representative of the Imperial Parliament in Kerry at £400 a year, and that he is no longer a representative of Kerry in the Imperial Parliament. He told the audience that "a load of misery and misfortune had been lifted from that district during the past ten years," but he had the grace to say that this was done "with the help of agitation." The Dingle people are not fools. They know that the fight for the land was fought, not by truckling or fawning or flunkeying, but by the sufferings and sacrifices of the people, before and during the time when Mr. O'Donnell was as yet "a servant of the Crown," like the man he now publicly denounces to starvation. "We are now," he declared, "a free nation, a self-governing people!" No cheers are reported at this point. Is it possible that the audience, like the cranks, humbugs and cowards, denounced under the patronage of Canon O'Leary of Dingle, had their own doubts about being members of a free nation and a self-governing people?

General Gough, of Curragh fame, has got it into the newspapers that he now has "a bodyguard of Sinn Feiners and Fenians." I am beginning to get jealous of these Sinn Feiners, they seem to be annexing everybody and everything. The London "Times" says they have annexed the Gaelic League. Now they have surrounded General Gough. I suspect that the twisters and time-servers are succeeding in making everybody believe that Sinn Feiner means any Irishman who has the courage and honesty to stand up in any degree for the old ideals of Ireland a Nation.

EOIN MAC NEILL

Cumann na mBan

We have received a very satisfactory report from Liverpool this week. The branch is strong and doing good work. The members are quite assiduous in their labours, and attend First Aid, Signalling, and Drill Classes with punctuality. A Ceilidh Mor will be held on December 27th, and it is hoped it will be a great success.

Good reports have also come in from the branches in Tullamore, Athlone, and Tralee.

NOTES ON TRAINING OF AMBULANCE DETACHMENTS.

INDOOR.

1. First Aid or Home Nursing Lecture. This being essential for Stretcher Squads, branches should use every effort to get the services of a doctor or qualified nurse to lecture them. Practice with triangular and roller bandages and splinting should take place once a week. A lecture should be arranged for on the use of the usual dressings and antiseptics (lint, cottonwool, gauze, iodine, lead lotion, etc.). Squad members who have any opportunity of assisting a doctor or nurse in dressing wounds, burns, etc. (or even of looking on at such work) are strongly advised to make the most of the chances, as more can be learned by this way in a few minutes than can be got out of books in as many hours.

2. Section Drill by Irish Volunteers. This has been found very useful from the point of view of discipline, and at the same time is interesting work. It should be followed by **Physical Drill** and **Semaphore Signalling.** Tests in Semaphore should be held after a few months (20 letters per minute, in the form of a message sent, and one received). Those who pass the test may proceed to **Morse Code.**

Stretcher Drill should be practised weekly if possible. Instructions for drill with 6 are to be found in the Fianna Handbook and St. Patrick's First Aid Manual.

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

POETICAL TIPS.

An interesting document has lately come into my hands, in the shape of a newspaper cutting giving tips for soldiers in doggerel verse. They are the product of the brain of a British officer, but many of them will be of use to Volunteers, who could easily commit them to memory. I therefore quote the more important items, occasionally taking the liberty of improving the metre, which is often execrable.

* * *

My first excerpt repeats one of the dogmata which I have been steadily driving home in lectures this long time:

"Care there should be, if your life you'd preserve,
Ammunition, food, men, keep a bit in Reserve."

And immediately afterwards the author adds a word or two on waste in general:

"Don't waste any food, and throw nothing away,
Or perhaps you'll go hungry the very next day.
Each bit of dry wood or of coal that you pass,
Just carry to camp, or a bit of dry grass.
For lighting a fire, some fat or some grease
Is a wonderful help, and it lights them with ease."

Next year's campers, please note.

* * *

A bit of moralising follows, to give a rhyme to the sound medical advice that comes after it:

"Have patience. All things will come right in a bit,
And the first thing to do is to keep yourself fit."

How? We had a lecture on this subject in the VOLUNTEER recently. Now that we are backed up by a competent military authority we refer you to -- again.

"Just keep your mouth shut, and don't talk when at work.
If everyone's talking a lot of them shirk."

Quite so. A valuable lesson this, and one which all Volunteers should appreciate. If the Volunteers have any faults, one of them is to stand about gossiping when they might be doing useful work. Of course they never talk when actually on parade!

* * *

Two essential rules and some useful knowledge follow:

"Keep rifles quite clean, and yourself too, as well,
Or the poisonous wound a sad story may tell.
Let pencil and paper be part of your kit;
You'll find that a great many uses they fit.
Messages written, not verbal, should be,
Or mistakes might occur, and then you're up a tree.
No order's correct, I must here clearly state,
Unless it is signed, with the time, place, and date."

Keep that last couplet buzzing in your head next time you go into action, and you will be saved many a wild goose chase. Slovenliness in the framing of messages and orders must never be overlooked on manoeuvres, or it may have disastrous results some day on the battlefield. If a verbal message has to be given let it be as short as possible, and make the messenger repeat it before despatching him. But better not give any if you can possibly avoid it.

* * *

Now a word to marksmen:

"At shooting you now must quite wonderful be,
But don't fire a shot if the foe you can't see.
Just take a good aim, and you may get the bull,
But up to the last keep your magazine full.
Quick firing's important, but no use a bit
To fire twenty rounds and nobody hit."

We would specially direct attention to the fourth line of this extract. The magazine is for use in extremity, in a tight corner, when there's no time to load. Under ordinary circumstances the cut-off should be closed and careful single shots fired. Volunteers should above all things be taught not to waste ammunition. Every bullet we have must be made to hit someone. The last couplet in the above enshrines one of those obvious rules which it never occurs to anyone to obey. We would like to make it recur for ever in the head of every Volunteer.

* * *

The contents of innumerable articles in the VOLUNTEER is summed up and concentrated in the next few lines:

"Resolve on a march that you'll never fall out.
It's the best marching side that will win without doubt.
So soap well your socks, and keep clean your feet,
Don't smoke, and don't drink, and you'll never be beat."

It was probably the exigencies of the metre that made the last line so terse and so drastic. Our poet could hardly expect to command an army of total abstainers, but of course it is perfectly true that the less you smoke and drink the better you'll march,—and the more money you'll have to spend on munitions.

* * *

Now for the steel:

"The finish with bayonets, trenches within,
'Tis the first point that counts, if it only gets in."

And in the lonely watches of the night let the sentry remember:

"Unless you are sure that a man is a friend
Mind you don't let him pass, or it may be your end."

No leniency, remember.

* * *

Sings our Britisher:

"White flags, or surrenders, well, those, we don't use them;
Be careful; the enemy's apt to abuse them."

Of course the first of these lines is ridiculous bombast. Surrenders are of constant occurrence on all sides in all wars. We commend the second line to the notice of Volunteers.

* * *

The poem ends a la plain blunt soldier:

"Expect to get through, and just hope for the best,
You just pull the trigger, and luck does the rest.
You only can die as a brave soldier can,
If you don't, then you live, and thank God you're a man.
If it's peace or it's war the end is the same,
And it don't matter much if you're playing the game."

There you have it,—the true philosophy of cannon-fodder.

E. O'D.

(Eamonn O Duffy)

GENERAL COUNCIL.

The first meeting of the newly-elected General Council of the Irish Volunteers was held at Headquarters on Sunday, 19th December. Eoin Mac Neill presided, and representatives from Dublin, Kilkenny City, Belfast, Limerick City, Limerick County, Louth, King's County, and Galway were present, while apologies were received from the representatives of Kilkenny County, Tipperary, Tyrone, Kerry, Cork City, Cork County, Derry City, and Wexford.

Much business was transacted dealing with the finances, equipment, training, and organisation of the Irish Volunteers. A number of training centres for Volunteer officers were arranged.

All literary communications for the IRISH VOLUNTEER should be addressed in future to

VOLUNTEER HEADQUARTERS,
2 Dawson Street, DUBLIN.

All communications re Advertisements to be addressed to the

IRISH PRESS BUREAU,
30 Lower Abbey Street, DUBLIN.

The Irish Volunteer

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25th, 1915.

Affiliations

The question of affiliations is one that does not arouse any enthusiasm among the corps of Irish Volunteers throughout the country. It is none the less a matter of considerable importance. The Company officers often regard the sending of affiliations to Headquarters as merely a vexatious formality that may be dispensed with when they are busy, and one which is obtruded on their notice by the General Secretary with an unnecessary frequency. The sooner this notion is dropped the better for the Irish Volunteers.

The affiliations of the Companies are the only financial call that has so far been made upon the rank and file by Headquarters, and if the amount is collected regularly it is absurdly small. Nevertheless, when it comes in regularly from all parts of the country it mounts up to a considerable figure, and one which would enable Headquarters to thoroughly organise and train corps in all parts of Ireland.

Do the Company officers realise that when they neglect affiliations they hamper the work of the Irish Volunteers? They prevent Headquarters from doing necessary work and from giving much-needed training to the corps. The corps need more instructors, and Headquarters has to find the means as well as the men. If affiliations were regularly paid by **all** the corps this would be easy. When the Company officers neglect affiliations it is very difficult.

Referring to this matter at the last Convention the President of the Irish Volunteers said:—"With regard to the coming year, the main point that I wish to impress on you is the maintenance of a thorough discipline, not merely in the stricter sense of carrying out orders on each occasion, but in the wider sense of maintaining the general order. Every company should fulfil its own place in the organisation. This depends, in the first instance, on affiliation maintained without neglect. Affiliation involves the payment of a fee at stated times to the Central Treasury. The fees are not large, and will not be irksome unless they are allowed to fall into arrears, and to let them fall into arrears is not consistent with discipline. In regard to expenditure, it should be the guiding principle that the regular income from affiliation fees should defray the regular expenses of organisation and administration and training, and that no part of these expenses should fall upon funds available for other purposes. Unless your regulations upon the payment of affiliation fees are observed in a disciplinary spirit, this principle cannot be observed, and we get into the very undesirable position of making up for neglect by waste."

The view that affiliations are a matter of necessary discipline should be acted upon by every officer—it is as much a part of his duty as the training and equipment of his men. The officers should also remember that the ability of Headquarters to give them the training that they need must always depend upon the financial resources which they place at the disposal of the Headquarters Staff.

SPECIAL COURSE OF TRAINING FOR SENIOR OFFICERS (ALL IRELAND).

There will be a special course of training at Headquarters for senior officers during the week January 15th to 21st. Every organised Battalion in the country should send at least one officer to the class. Names to be reported before January 12th to the Director of Training.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comaírle Ġnóta Féinne Fáil ina nDúnport tráthnóna D. Céadaoin, an 15 ad lá de'n mí seo, agus an Ceann Cata Pádraic Mac Piarais ina cathaoirleach orta.

Do rinneadh a lán oibre d'fhár ar na gnáth-thurasgbálaib.

Thug Riaraíde an Oireachtais cuntas uaidh ar Shluaġ na Gaillimhe. Trí Cata agus cúig Complachta déag ar fichid líon an tSluaġ; an Sluaġ ag áullmhuġadh féin go dícheallach agus airm ag níġ bhrurmhór na bhfear. Do bí an Comaírle lántrásta leis an gcuntas seo.

D'fhógair an tAsd-Rúnaíde go raibh fuirmeacha réidh cum roinnt ar bhfortuiġtheoiríbh an Luchd Conganta.

Tionól do bí ag an gComaírle Choitchinn D. Domhnaiġ an 19adh lá ⁊ an tOiche Eoin Mac Néill, Uachtarán, ina chathaoirleach.

Do rinneadh díorpóireacht ar chúrsáibh airgid agus do chríochnuġeadh comaírle chum na ndíolaidheacht phárte do bailiuġadh ó na Complachtaibh i n-am agus a chúram sin do chur ar na Comairlíbh Sluaġ agus ar na Bordaibh Conntae. Do haontuiġeadh freisin cáin raol an duine do chur ar Fiannaibh Fáil i gcoitchinne mar chabair do chiste na Féinne.

Dúnport na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 19 m. na n., 1915.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, the 15th inst., Commandant P. H. Pearse in the chair.

A large amount of business arising out of the usual reports was dealt with.

The Director of Organisation made a special report on the Galway Brigade, which was regarded as highly satisfactory. The Brigade comprises three organised Battalions, together with numerous Companies not yet grouped into Battalions, the total number of active Companies being thirty-six. Training is being carried on vigorously, and practically all the men are armed.

The Secretary reported that enrolment forms to be used by organisers or centres of the Volunteers' Auxiliary were ready for distribution.

The General Council met on Sunday, the 19th inst., Professor Eoin Mac Neill, President, in the chair.

A discussion took place on finance, and it was decided to create proper machinery for the regular collection of the Companies' affiliation fees, the responsibility to be placed on Brigade Councils or County Boards where such exist. It was also agreed to place a special levy of sixpence per man on all Companies for Headquarters purposes.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 19th December, 1915.

Notes from Headquarters

THE ANTI-CONSCRIPTION DEMONSTRATION.

As far as the Irish Volunteers are concerned, there was no need for the marvellous demonstration of Tuesday week last. Friends and foes know that they stand pledged as a military organisation to resist conscription. The demonstration was valuable, however, in showing, with a plainness that no man can gainsay, that the democracy of Dublin stands behind the Irish Volunteers. Any attempt to enforce conscription by Act of British Parliament will be resisted to the blood by the men and women of Dublin.

HUNGER-SCRIPTION.

In the meantime the other form of Conscription is in our midst. Men are being driven into the army against their will by a cruel form of oppression exercised by employers at the behest of the British Government. There is only one way to fight this. Proof of such action on the part of any firm must be followed by a rigid boycott of that firm by Irish Nationalists. Volunteers who are in possession of the facts of any such case should immediately communicate them to the proper persons at Headquarters.

THE AUXILIARY.

Forms for the enrolment of members of the Auxiliary can now be had from the General Secretary. The forms contain spaces for ten names, and each enroller of ten will be regarded as an organiser or centre of the Auxiliary, and will be expected to collect and forward the subscriptions of his ten members. The subscriptions will be received in monthly instalments of sixpence. This essentially democratic scheme should bring into the Auxiliary all the sympathisers with the Irish Volunteers who cannot for the moment come into the fighting line. Those who are in a position to get recruits for the Auxiliary should step forward at once.

THE GALWAY BRIGADE.

The Galway Brigade stands next to the Cork Brigade in point of actual size. From the nature of its district, it is perhaps a more homogeneous and definitely organised military body. It has thirty-six Companies in active being, with others in course of formation. The majority of the Companies are grouped into three Battalions, but outside the Battalion areas numerous Companies and Scouting Sections exist. Training is being keenly carried on throughout the Brigade district, and the Brigade may be regarded as well armed.

The Dublin Brigade

Recruits are still wanted for several Companies of the Dublin Brigade. Every effort should be made to bring every Company up to full strength.

The Companies meet at the following halls:—

Companies.

BATT. I.

A. Monday, 8 p.m., Colmcille Hall, Blackhall Street.
B. Monday 8 p.m., 41 Parnell Square.
C. Thursday, 8 p.m., 41 Parnell Sq.
D. Saturday, 8 p.m., Colmcille Hall, Blackhall Street.
F. Thursday, 8 p.m., 25 Parnell Sq.
G. Wednesday, 8 p.m., Colmcille Hall, Blackhall Street.

BATT. II.

B. Tuesday, 8 p.m., Father Mathew Park, Fairview.
C. Wednesday, 8 p.m., 25 Parnell Sq.
D. Sunday morning, 11 a.m., Father Mathew Park, Fairview.
E. Wednesday, 8 p.m., Father Mathew Park, Fairview.
F. Thursday, 8 p.m., Father Mathew Park, Fairview.
G. Tuesday, 8 p.m., Lamh Dearg Hall, Glasnevin.

BATT. III.

A. Monday, 8 p.m., Camden Row.
B. Tuesday, 8 p.m., Camden Row and Great Brunswick Street.
C. Thursday, 8 p.m., Camden Row.
D. Thursday, 8 p.m., Thorncastle Street, Ringsend.
E. Wednesday, 8 p.m., Cullenswood House, Oakley Road.

BATT IV.

A. Monday, 8 p.m., Larkfield, Kimmage.
B. Tuesday, 8 p.m., Larkfield, Kimmage.
C. Thursday, 8 p.m., Larkfield, Kimmage.
D. Friday, 8 p.m., Larkfield, Kimmage.
E. Monday, 8 p.m., Rathfarnham.
F. Monday and Thursday, 8 p.m., Emmet Hall, Inchicore.
G. Tallaght and Clondalkin.

Note—Corps throughout Ireland should send a note of the times and places of their weekly parades for Publication.—Ed. I.V.).

Classes at Headquarters suspended from December 23rd to January 2nd, inclusive.

Leabhar Drille Óglách na hÉireann

(An Leanmhaint).

Scrúdughadh Gunnaí.

Caithfear an gunna anáirde leis an láimh dheis fhairthearna na cabaile i dtreo go mbeidh beul an ghunna in uachtar agus an meaisirín ar chaoi na láimhe clé fíor agus an bairille fhairthearna puinte na gualann clé agus ar a ghaird amach. Lena linn sin, beirtear gheim fa láimh chlé ar an ngunna, lairtiar den fhadhaire dheiridh, i dtreo go mbeidh an óirdhóg 7 na méireanna timcheall ar an ngunna agus caol na láimhe clé ar aghaidh an chléibh i leith na láimhe clé agus an dá uillinn go dlúth leis an gcabhail. Cartar an glas fábála roimh ar fhad le hóirdhóis agus le méir thoraigh na láimhe deise.

Má bhíonn an chomhla irtigh, luighfear uirri leis an óirdhóis agus tarraingfear amach í. Annsan beirtear gheim ar chnapán an bholta le hóirdhóis agus le méir thoraigh na láimhe deise. Cartar aníor go mear é agus tarraingfear siar é faid a fhaghaidh sé. Beirtear gheim fa láimh dheis ar bhair an ghunna, lairtiar den bholta, i dtreo go mbeidh an óirdhóg sínte i dtreo beul an ghunna.

NÓTA—Más i dá shaing a "baileochar" chum na ngunnaí do scrúdughadh, ní mór don shaing dheiridh bheith thí choirchéim ar an dtaobh chiar den shaing thoraigh.

Volunteer Happenings.

AGAINST CONSCRIPTION.
GREAT MEETING AT MANSION HOUSE, DUBLIN.

The IRISH VOLUNTEER went to press too early last week to give a report of the great Anti-Conscription Meeting which was held in the Mansion House, Dublin, on Tuesday, 14th December.

Eoin Mac Neill occupied the chair, and in the course of his speech dealt at length with the statements recently made by the English Chief Secretary. The speaker gave the lie direct to the statements made by Mr. Birrell in the English House of Commons against the Irish Volunteers.

P. H. Pearse said: That if any man loved the English Empire let him go and fight for the Empire, but that the men of Ireland would never submit to be conscripted.

Rev. Father Connolly, Ballinasloe; Mrs. Sheehy-Skeffington, Bulmer Hobson, James Connolly, Arthur Griffith, and T. Farren (President of the Dublin Trades Council), also addressed the meeting and dealt with every phase of the subject.

The Round Room of the Mansion House was packed with people, and a large and equally enthusiastic overflow meeting was held outside.

The meeting was a free and open one to the citizens of Dublin, and there was not a dissentient voice when the Chairman put the only resolution which was submitted at the close of the proceedings—namely, "We won't have Conscription." This was declared carried amidst a scene of intense enthusiasm.

THE SOUTH-EAST.

The South-Eastern corner of the country is coming on in good style: this district comprises the Counties of Kilkenny, Carlow, Waterford, and Wexford. Corps have been forming latterly at the rate of about one per week, which is fairly satisfactory; and this rate is likely to continue. In addition the already existing corps are steadily recruiting up. The best improvement of all is that evinced by Waterford City Corps, which now musters twice its strength of some months back, has a good standard of training, and is proceeding with the task of arming itself. A similar story is that of Kilkenny; while both give a lot of attention to working up the country districts around. On Sunday, 12th December, a very noteworthy field-day took place at Thomastown, in which all four counties took part, detachments from Bagnalstown, Ross, and Waterford co-operating with the various Kilkenny Companies. This was a most instructive lesson in the matter of concentrating scattered units. There is still a lack of thorough inter-communication, but small intermediate corps are being worked up, which in course of a little while will supply this deficiency—and there is good reason to hope that the South-East will presently rival the South-West.

IRISH VOLUNTEER STALL AT AONACH NA NODLAG, DUBLIN DEC. 9th to 18th.

PROGRESS IN ATHLONE.

The Athlone Corps has been growing steadily stronger of late, and many new recruits have come in within the last fortnight. This corps is becoming thoroughly proficient in both drill and field work, and the progress that has been made within the last few months is very satisfactory. Something more, however, might be done towards the surrounding country.

WEST LIMERICK.

West County Limerick has been recently visited by an organiser from Headquarters, and the result has been a very large number of new corps. All over the county the young men are flocking to the standard of the Irish Volunteers, and within the last three weeks over a dozen separate corps have been newly formed.

COUNTY GALWAY.

All over County Galway the various corps are working hard, and a good many sections in the more remote districts have been recently started. In addition a series of officers' classes have been started in two or three centres, and have been very well attended, many of the men coming long distances to be present.

AN INTERESTING INCIDENT.

On Friday night, the 10th inst., during inter-battalion manoeuvres in Dublin, a sentry group consisting of three men found itself isolated at Portobello Bridge. Some drunken soldiery attracted a crowd by using bad language towards the men. Soon a large number had assembled consisting mainly of soldiers, whose attitude was distinctly menacing. Police of various ranks arrived and questioned the Volunteers, asking them their names and business there; to which they refused to reply, stating they were "on duty." A Police Inspector asked a Volunteer what would happen in case of a breach of the peace. "If you regard us as civilians," was the reply, "it is your duty to protect us. If you regard us as military, we can deal with the situation ourselves." A fine answer and worthy of record.

A policeman who hustled one of the men found himself instantly at the end of a bayonet. Guns were then loaded, and a passing Section Commander stepped in and took charge. At this point a soldier called on the "Portobello men" to form up. Another called on the "Beggar's Bush men." The Commandant, cycling home, arrived as the warriors formed up, to hear another soldier cry, "Any of Larkin's men here? Two can play at this game. If Carson's men can arm, I don't see why we can't." Before this significant counter-stroke had time to develop the Commandant, taking in the situation, marched off the squad and dismissed them.

Special Mobilisation of Volunteers

and Friends ordered for **Monday, 27th Dec,** at 7.30 p.m., to reinforce F. C., 2nd Batt., who will occupy a very strong position, at

Foresters' Hall, 41 Parnell Square,

when

HERBERT PIM (A. NEWMAN)

(supported by Mr. GINNELL, M.P., will deliver an important address on
"How We Stand To-day in Ireland."

He will also contribute to the Concert Programme in his own inimitable style that stirring song,

"Rory of the Gael."

He will be supported by Brian O'Higgins, Miss Mollie Byrne, Gerard Crofts, Sean Connolly, Miss Florrie Ryan, Miss Lnea McGinley, McHale Dancers, Capt. T. McCarthy, and a host of Irish-Ireland Talent.

Doors open at 6.45. Concert commencing at 7.30 p.m. sharp.

COMMANDANT T. McDONAGH will preside.

Prices of Admission, 2s., 1s., and a limited number of 6d. tickets.

MRS. HEGARTY, Costumier, 93 Harcourt Street. Cumann na mBan Costumes a speciality.

NA FIANNA EIREANN

DUTIES OF SCOUTS.

A volunteer army for the purposes of national defence may now be regarded as a permanent institution in this country. It may be assumed that the shaping of this army into an effective military force will be carried out on much the same basis of organisation, and more or less on the same system of training as the Volunteers of the present day.

One of the greatest difficulties which will present itself to Volunteer officers is the training of scouts. I am told that the scouting at Volunteer manoeuvres is extremely bad. In fact there has been little or no real scouting, for the simple reason that there are no trained scouts in the Volunteers. A highly-trained scout does not learn his multifarious duties in a few months; it takes him years of continuous study and practice.

In my opinion, boys between fourteen and twenty years of age, with a few years' training will make far better scouts than men—even with twice as much training. In the first place, the boy's eyesight is, as a rule, much better than the man's; his powers of observation keener; and he possesses more initiative, courage, and imagination than the average man.

The Fianna has, therefore, great possibilities in supplying the national army with efficient scouts. The Dublin Battalion has already seriously set itself to this important work. I hope other centres will follow its example.

The duties of the scout are, to put it briefly, to get information about the enemy and to find the means of communicating such information to the commander of his force. This latter is often the most difficult to accomplish. The nature and extent of his information will depend upon the instructions he receives from his commander before going out; and its value will depend on circumstances. The success of the scout in getting information and in communicating such information to his commander may be the means of securing a great victory for his side or perhaps in averting a crushing defeat.

To some boys scouting may appear to be as easy as falling off a log; but believe me, the fellow who thinks this I would not trust to scout for butter for the breakfast table, for as like as not he would fetch you the cheese.

It is obvious that the information a scout is sent out to obtain is just the sort of information the enemy desires to keep secret. The forces of all civilised armies are organised so as to prevent its movements and secrets coming to the knowledge of its enemies. The scout must therefore have his senses and brains developed to their fullest extent if he is to succeed in his work.

In addition to the usual subjects (i.e., musketry drill, physical culture, signalling, first aid), the Director of Training has set the following course in scouting:—

1. Observation. Know how to observe. Training the eyes and ears.
2. Map reading. How to make a rough sketch.
3. Reports. What to report on, and how to make a report.
4. Use of ground. How to move about and see without being seen.
5. How to judge distance accurately and estimate numbers correctly.
6. Tracking. How to form sound conclusions from signs.
7. Pathfinding. How to guide yourself by compass, by the sun, or by the stars.
8. Self-reliance, confidence, initiative, and resourcefulness.

Before concluding this article I would like to explain that these notes are intended for the training of mounted (cycle) scouts as distinct from "ground" or "company" scouts. These latter usually operate near the force to which they belong. The duties of the company scouts are:—

1. Locate obstacles to the advance.
2. To select the best line of advance.
3. Report the direction in which the enemy is in position or is advancing.
4. Protection.

Any intelligent infantry man can be trained in these duties in a comparatively short time. The more extended reconnaissance and scouting proper are carried out by the highly-trained scout. When I use the term scout in these notes it will be understood that I refer to the "mounted" scout and not the "company" scout.

From week to week I will deal with each of these subjects in the order given above. If there are any points not quite clear to my readers, or if there is any additional information they would like me to add, I would be glad if they would communicate with me to this office.

PADRAIC O'RIAIN.

FIRST AID CLASSES
For Members of Cumann na mBan, Thursday afternoon 4 to 5.30, beginning October 29th. Those wishing to attend should apply by letter to Hon. Secs., Cumann na mBan Executive, 2 Dawson Street.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

THE

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 56 (New Series). SATURDAY, JANUARY 1st, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

The Irish Volunteers offer a New Year's greeting to their mother Ireland. They tell her that the word they have given her will not be taken back. They will keep on making themselves more efficient in her service and more capable of doing the duty they have undertaken towards her at whatever time she calls on them to do it. They also wish a happy New Year and a happy future to all the people of Ireland, both those who have stood by them and befriended them and those who have not.

• • •

They send the same friendly greetings and wish the same blessings to all the children of Eire who dwell beyond the seas and are mindful of their motherland. They ask the prayers of all their brothers and sisters in Ireland and abroad, that they may fulfil their duty according to the ancient rules of prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance.

• • •

The sense of discipline and duty grows slowly in a volunteer body and in a country where law for ages has been made the enemy and oppressor of the people and of justice. I heard the other day about the case of a Volunteer who, in the gaiety of his heart, fired a shot from his rifle in public. He was summoned by the police before a magistrate and fined a small sum. I have had to expose before now the gross misconduct of police officers, law officers, and magistrates. That is no pleasant task. I could heartily wish that all Irishmen who are in the service of the unrightful Government of Ireland would at least refuse at all costs to do any plainly dishonourable action and to make themselves the willing tools of anti-Irish politicians in power. But in this case I have the pleasure of congratulating the police and the magistrate, whoever they may be, on having been in a position to do what the officers of the Volunteers must do, to enforce discipline. The Volunteer who fires a shot without orders, except in a case of undoubted necessity, commits a breach of discipline, and deserves punishment. When a Volunteer is carrying his arms, or wearing his uniform, or part-uniform, or part-uniform authorised by his officers, he is under discipline, and no sort of monkeying or irresponsible separate action on his part should be allowed to go uncensured. By the same token, I hear some complaints of bad care of arms by individual Volunteers—rifles, etc., kept with the action spring in tension, or with foul barrels, and so on. Every officer is responsible for the proper care of weapons by the men under him, and inspection of arms should be made as frequently as may be found practicable.

• • •

Another good service has been done by the police in some places and deserves to be recognised. When active recruiting for the Volunteers has been in progress, the police, no doubt acting under Mr. Birrell's instructions, have gone about telling young men or their relatives that the Irish Volunteers are severely frowned upon by the benign Government, and that it might be better for the young men to keep away from them. I have been telling people the same thing—young men who are afraid of lawless intimidation had better take no risks, and if their relatives think that the young men should look to their own selfish interests and the devil take the country, it is well they should be put to the test. I commend Mr. Birrell for having instituted this form of preliminary examination in patriotism.

• • •

Mr. Redmond told the Imperial Parliament on December 21st that the thought of what was happening and might happen at Gallipoli "had been for some weeks past something like a nightmare." Uneasy lies the head that makes a political bolster of the lives of men. Mr. Redmond's nightmare is a sign of grace. The Gallipoli retirement will not bring peace to his pillow.

• • •

Mr. Redmond went on to speak on another matter. "He would state his personal views on compulsion. He was content to take the phrase the Prime Minister used last week, and be prepared to say that **he would stick at nothing** that was calculated to effect their purpose and end this war (cheers). That was the view, he was certain, of the people of Ireland." Where did Mr. Redmond get mandate or authority for this utterance? Now that he has declared himself, will he venture to go before any free and open audience, like the meeting held recently in the Mansion House, and ask for mandate and authority? We have heard on fifty occasions the rant of "stabbing Mr. Redmond in the back." I do not wish to see the violent language of faction established as a feature of Irish politics, and it is enough to say plainly that Mr. Redmond's "stick-at-nothing" declaration is not "the view of the people of Ireland" or of any considerable section of the people of Ireland.

• • •

Mr. Redmond proceeds: **"He was not convinced** that the compulsion of any class of the people of this country was necessary to end the war or was calculated to lead to that result. This was **not a question of principle** but of expediency, of necessity, and if it was proved that it was necessary, to end the war, so far as he was concerned the case was settled. But **he did not think** it was necessary, and he was convinced that they could prove it was not necessary. On the contrary, he believed that the introduction of compulsion **under the conditions of the moment** would have the contrary effect. With the man who would say he would rather lose the war than have compulsion, he had no sympathy at all, and nobody had. But the onus of proving the necessity rested with those who advocated compulsion. . . . He was convinced it would be disastrous, and if it was proposed **under present circumstances and conditions** he for one would oppose it by every means in his power. . . . For these reasons he said to the Prime Minister and the Government—and in this he spoke for all his colleagues from Ireland—that **in the existing cir-**

cumstances and conditions they were opposed to anything of the kind, and they sincerely hoped and believed the Government would make no such proposal."

* * *

Those who have compelled Mr. Redmond to surrender at stage after stage can take no meaning out of his words but that they will compel him to surrender on this point also if they so desire. He "is not convinced," but "if it was proved" . . . ! They have already learned how to convince Mr. Redmond. "The conditions of the moment," "the present circumstances," as he and they well know, are certain to change; and Mr. Redmond carefully kept open a way of retreat by saying nothing at all about the sort of proof that would "convince" him or the sort of conditions and circumstances that would enable him to make up another strategic retirement with inconsiderable loss, if the losses during the campaign beforehand are to be ignored.

* * *

It is the mind of the Irish people that matters in this compulsion intrigue, not the forcible feeble pronouncements of Mr. Redmond, and this fact, too, is well known to the compulsionists both of the political and of the militarist school. The only reason for quoting Mr. Redmond is to show the sort of lamentable indecision, of carelessness about Irish opinion, and of want of trust in Ireland that have made him the instrument of a set of British statesmen and have brought to its present plight the policy entrusted to him by his Irish supporters. The compulsionist policy is a deliberate piece of political trickery on the part of the more audacious section of the British Oligarchy. Mr. Dillon, who spoke later in the discussion, came very near to an exposure of the fraud. He practically challenged the Government to declare what they proposed to do with the four millions of men enlisted under the present "voluntary" system. The Under-Secretary for War, Mr. Asquith's nephew, recognised the challenge, and interrupted with an answer that was no answer. The true answer is that compulsion means snaffling the democracy with a view to what may happen, not during the war but after the war.

* * *

Mr. Dillon will not claim me as his obsequious follower, but I am bound in fairness to say that on this occasion, so far as he dealt with militarist compulsion, as it might be applied to Ireland, he spoke like a man and an Irishman and he did not speak like Mr. Redmond. "Do not let this country," he said, "be drawn into this militarism." Mr. Dillon knows how far militarism has gone already. He knows who were at the back of the "Civil War" threat, at the back of the Curragh threat, and at the back of the threat to use the army to overbear the constitutional enactment of Home Rule. That was militarism and a little more. It was an aggravated kind of militarism that the most war-fevered English patriot does not venture to charge against Prussia.

* * *

Sir Edward Carson spoke after Mr. Redmond and before Mr. Dillon. Sir Edward Carson has some experience in the art of convincing Mr. Redmond, and began the task afresh with a hardly hidden threat: "I do not know why my hon. and learned countryman introduecd this subject to-day at all! . . . I hope the hon. and learned member for Waterford did not mean to throw out in advance that there would be any difficulties in this house or in Ireland in relation to a question of this kind."

* * *

Sir Edward Carson is out in search for a policy at present. He is not quite so popular in Ulster as he was some time ago. It is needless to inquire why. He recognises that he is an Irishman, when in the Westminster Parliament he calls Mr. Redmond his fellow-countryman. I will offer him a policy. Ireland, including Ulster, is now threatened with further depopulation and economic ruin. Let him consider how to avert that danger and take action accordingly, disregarding other political interests as he knows how to disregard them. If he does so, he may find himself the statesman of a Nation, and leave Mr. Redmond a seat in the House of Lords. Whether he is man enough or Irishman enough to achieve this, I confess I do not know.

* * *

At all events he laid himself open to an effective answer, and he got it from Mr. Dillon, who said: "He felt it to be **his duty** to warn the Government that conscription they would not tolerate in Ireland. Sir Edward Carson had got up to answer for Ireland, but the right hon. gentleman knew perfectly well that **his own part of Ireland was opposed just as much to conscription as were the other parts."** The value of this answer lies in its elaborate truth, which makes it worth more than columns of "ifs" and "buts" and shilly-shally reservations.

* * *

When Mr. Dillon said, "Conscription we will not tolerate in Ireland," he spoke the mind of the Irish Nation, not the hypothetical reflexion of the mind of the British Prime Minister. His declaration was received with "loud cheers," which did not greet the in-and-out declaration of his leader, Mr. Redmond. We may be sure that the cheers included those of the Irish Party, who must have listened to Mr. Redmond's earlier words with extreme uneasiness. Mr. Redmond will learn one of these days that his attitude has ceased to command any respect among the Irish public.

EOIN MAC NEILL

Strategic Points of the Irish Counties.

XII. DERRY—DERRY.

No other place in County Derry can compare with Derry City in importance from a military point of view. It is a seaport of very considerable importance, and has a ship-building yard and dock accommodation. There is an important road bridge across the Foyle connecting the Counties of Donegal and Derry, and on the eastern bank of the river there is road communication with Coleraine, Toomebridge, Omagh, and intermediate places, like Limavady and Strabane. On the western bank there are roads to different parts of Donegal. Derry is also a terminus of two lines of railway: that from Belfast by Antrim-Coleraine, and that from Portadown by Dungannon and Omagh—the two lines being separated by the central expanse of the Sperrin Mountains. A light railway runs from Buncrana to Letterkenny.

XIII. DONEGAL—LIFFORD.

Lifford is a very small town—nothing like the largest in Donegal, and in immediate importance is entirely overshadowed by its next neighbour, Strabane, just over the River Foyle, in Tyrone. But Lifford is important because it is the only way into County Donegal—all the railways that tap that county converge on Lifford. The reason for this is that the land of Donegal consists of a set of parallel mountain chains running roughly from south-west to north-east, and the passes across these chains are few and far between. The roads to different parts of the county also branch out from Lifford: the only exceptions of any consequence are the roads near Ballyshannon and Derry, and these are at the extreme ends of the county.

XIV. DOWN—NEWRY.

Newry is a place that is not now so important relatively from the military point of view as it was before the construction of the Irish railway system, because it is not on the main line between Dublin and Belfast—only a branch line running to it. There is also a line to Greenore, on Carlingford Lough, which is a cross-channel port. Small ships can also come up to Newry itself, and the Newry Canal connects with Portadown, Lough Neagh, and so on to Belfast. But the main importance of Newry lies in its situation on the main Dublin-Belfast road, which there runs through a mountain defile. From Newry also roads diverge to different parts of the south of County Down, and another road runs due west, with branches into the well-tilled Counties of Armagh and Monaghan.

XV. DUBLIN—HOWTH.

The Hill of Howth is not actually a military position of importance, but is capable of being made such. If properly equipped with powerful coast batteries it would by itself go far to make Dublin impregnable. Heavy guns on Howth would be able to engage and defeat a hostile fleet out of range of Dublin, which would thus be in no danger of navil bombardment. Moreover, the forts on Howth by reason of their great command—over 500 feet would be largely safeguarded from the guns of the ships, which latter, on the other hand, could be sunk by the plunging fire of the batteries on the height. Again, the shores of the promontory are so precipitous that no attempt at landing would have any chance of success in case it was designed to rush the forts. Finally, lighter batteries sighted on the reverse slope of the hill would be in a position to shiver by their enfilade fire any attempt at a landing on the coast from Howth right away up to Rush. The existing electric tram line up to the summit admits of convenient development for the transport of stores of all kinds from the bottom.

XVI. FERMANAGH—ENNISKILLEN.

The Jacobite War affords an instructive example of the importance of Enniskillen. In point of fact Enniskillen is an extraordinary military position and extremely difficult to beleaguer. It is situated on a five-mile neck of land between two large lakes, which neck presents the further character of a river line expanding into small lakelets in many places: it is thus very easily defensable. Moreover, a great number of routes converge on this neck, including the following railways:—That by Belcoo and Manorhamilton to Collooney; that by Fintona to Omagh, with a branch from Bundoran Junction round the north of Lower Lough Erne to Ballyshannon; that by Newtown Butler to Clones—another fairly important junction. All these lines are paralleled by roads running close to them. In addition, there is another road to Ballyshannon by the south side of the lake, one by the western side of the Upper lake to Belturbet and Cavan, and one due east by Tempo, through the Clogher Valley.

XVII. GALWAY—ATHENRY.

Athenry is situated at the junction point of the Great Southern Railway from Limerick to Sligo with the Midland from Galway to Dublin. Railways are important in Galway more than in other counties, because the roads are not very plentiful and several are bad, while the distances are very great. In this respect Athenry resembles Claremorris, in Mayo. By road Athenry is also centrally placed, being within easy distance of Galway, Headford, Tuam, Mount Bellew, and Loughrea.

XVIII. KERRY—KILLARNEY.

Although not a place of the highest military value, Killarney is nevertheless by far the most important point in Kerry. It is so on account of the very peculiar shape of this county, a great part of which is comprised in the three long, narrow mountain peninsulas of Smerwick, Cahirciveen, and Castletown-Bere—part of which latter is in Co. Cork. These peninsulas are separated from each other by Dingle Bay and Kenmare River, and the towns of Castlemaine and Kenmare at the head of these inlets command all the roads from these peninsulas to the interior. Now, good roads and railways run from Killarney to each of these towns, and also from Killarney to Tralee and Listowel. Killarney is such an important tourist centre that all the roads from it are good. It will be seen at once that Killarney is by far the best point of assembly for a military force in Kerry, being the only one capable of being reached by all with comparative ease. And contrariwise it is the best centre to move from to any part of the county.

Inland from Killarney runs the road and railway by Macroom to Mallow; and another road over the mountains to Cork.

XIX. KILDARE—SALLINS.

It may seem strange to select a small village like Sallins as the most important strategic centre in Co. Kildare, and it is so for one reason chiefly—but a very important one. In its neighbourhood the Great Southern and Western Railway, the most important line of communication by far between Dublin and the South of Ireland, can be destroyed in two places: a little above the town where it crosses the Grand Canal and a little below where it crosses the Liffey. Moreover, the canal itself passes through Sallins, and in places its banks could be broken and the country flooded.

North of Sallins the country is easily defensible, being well wooded in great part on the side of Straffan, and covered by the Bog of Allen in the direction of Prosperous and Timahoe.

XX. KILKENNY—KILKENNY.

The City of Kilkenny is of course by far the most important town in point of size in the county of the same name. It is further, although not precisely in the middle of the county, sufficiently central to be a natural point of junction. Finally, it is of consequence by reason of its commanding the most important routes through the county. Of these the principal is the road from Clonmel by Callan, and so on by Athy and Naas to Dublin. This road at Kilkenny crosses the Nore, here a fair-sized river. Another road runs north-west to Roscrea; one goes due south to Waterford; and a third by way of Thomastown to New Ross. The city is on that line of the Great Southern Railway which runs from Maryboro' to Waterford, and there is a short transverse branch to Bagnalstown.

XXI. KING'S—TULLAMORE.

Tullamore, like Kilkenny and some of the other points described, is locally important because it has a central situation which admits of easy communication with all parts of the county. It is connected by road with Banagher, Birr, Maryboro', Portarlington, Edenderry, Mullingar and Athlone. It is also one of the most important points on the Grand Canal between Dublin and Ballinasloe.

But it is also a place of consequence for another reason: it is situated midway on the branch line of railway connecting the two important junctions of Mullingar and Portarlington, and this line passes over a bridge near the town. This cross-line is the only north-and-south railway east of the Shannon connecting important systems. Indeed in the matter of communications generally between North and South Tullamore is very important by reason of the number of such routes passing through it.

XXII. MEATH—NAVAN.

The Boyne Valley is one of the most important tracts of land in the province of Leinster, and Navan is the principal town in this district: it is so alike by reason of its size and its situation. Placed at the junction of the Boyne and Blackwater, it controls the valleys of both these rivers.

The Great Northern Railway from Drogheda to Kells and Oldcastle passes through the town, as also does the Dublin-Kingscourt line. There is also a very good and direct road to Dublin, two to Drogheda—one on each bank of the Boyne, one due north, and others to Kells, Mullingar, and Trim.

Four Plays at the Irish Theatre.

The Irish Theatre, Hardwicke Street, will produce every night next week and on Saturday Matinee four Plays:—

Ὀαιḃṗe Ruaḋ by ṗáḋṛaiċ Ó Conaiṛe (In Irish)

The Phoenix on the Roof, by Eimar O'Duffy.

The Swan Song, by Anton Tchekoff,

And a new Comedy in one act by John McDonagh, entitled **Author! Author!**

GORT CORPS.

A Rifle, with 100 Ball Cartridges, raffled at Town Hall, Gort, on St. Stephen's Day. Winning number, 705 (Seven, nought, five).

All literary communications for the IRISH VOLUNTEER should be addressed in future to

VOLUNTEER HEADQUARTERS,
2 Dawson Street, DUBLIN.

All communications re Advertisements to be addressed to the

IRISH PRESS BUREAU,
30 Lower Abbey Street, DUBLIN.

SUBSCRIPTION.—THE IRISH VOLUNTEER will be posted free to any address for one year at a cost of 6/6; for half a year, 3/3; for the quarter, 1/8.

Cheques and Postals should be crossed and made payable to the Manager, IRISH VOLUNTEER.

The Irish Volunteer

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1st, 1916.

Cork Communications Cut

Letters addressed to the Irish Volunteer Headquarters in Cork and to Cork Volunteer officers are not being delivered. All friends of the movement, especially those in Cork County, anxious to get in touch with the city for help and co-operation are requested to send their communications by other means than that through the post. The Headquarters Staff in Cork are taking steps to establish communication with their corps and friends in the county. Meanwhile, any sympathiser who has sent a query and got no reply will understand from this notice that his letter was not delivered in Cork. The upset is only temporary.

Hedge-Fighting for Small Units

IMPROVING THE GROUND.

There are certain points to be borne in mind with reference to the deliberate preparation of a position. The best general line should be selected, and measures taken to strengthen that. **The most essential things should be done first.** Sections of the front that may be approached under partial cover should be strongly held—where there is dead ground, bushes, etc. The stronger parts may be thinly held. **Holes may have to be cut in hedges** to enable the troops to see through them. Frequently in summer tall weeds grow up close to the hedges which obstruct the view. These may be quickly cleared by telling off a detail to trample them down. Any additional earth thrown up will be easy to conceal as a rule: the hedges afford good screening. Roads, as we have seen, should be specially prepared for defence.

The best way to **strengthen hedges** is to nail strands of barbed wire along them from stump to stump. Gaps should be filled by thrusting formidable thorn bushes into them and wiring these solidly together. If there is no time to fill gaps great care must be observed in passing them—by sprinting past quickly, by rolling over and over, by worming along on the belly.

On the other hand, it may be necessary to make gaps in order to improve lateral communications, as the Irish did at Aughrim. To make a gap in a hedge choose a weak spot, and cut away the wood with bills, axes, saws, etc. Wire fences should be cut near posts and the loose ends twisted back around them. Loose stone walls can have the stones taken away for use elsewhere. Similarly when bushes are cut down they may be used to strengthen other points. A few rough strong steps will help in crossing masonry walls.

FORE-GROUND.

Clearances may be effected by burning or cutting down the bushes in front. Sometimes there will be no time to carry out a complete clearance: and then it will be a question of what to clear. Hedges that can be easily enfiladed can be left standing. If there are still dangerous hedges that it would take too long to clear, the difficulty can be overcome by cutting a few wide gaps in them and telling off picked shots to watch these gaps. By concentrating fire on the gaps it will be possible to completely spoil the hedges as lines of advance for the enemy.

VILLAGES.

These should not be held if they are likely to come under artillery fire. They are too easy a target. It is best to hold a position in rear of a village commanding the exits than one in front of it. Similarly reserves or trains should not be assembled in villages within artillery range by day if avoidable. It may be remarked that commonly very enclosed ground occurs in the immediate neighbourhood of villages.

FIGHTING RETIREMENTS.

In addition to the ready-made facility for defence, there is another characteristic of Irish terrain calling for very special notice in its defensive aspect. This is the possibility of operating on lines of **fighting retirement**—one specialised type of which has been referred to in discussing road combats. But the subject has many bearings in the widest aspect. Many of the best-known Irish battles afford examples of this fence-to-fence fighting: It will be unnecessary to cite more than Aughrim, Ballynahinch, and Foulk's Mills. It is merely a special case of a principle often exemplified in fighting all over the world. Frequently in combats in woods it has happened that

(Continued on page 6.)

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comaire Ghnóta Féinne Fáil ina n'Dúnport tráthnóna D. Céadaoin an 22 ad lá de'n mí ro, agus an Ceann Cata Pádraic Mac Piarais ina cathaoirleach orta.

Fríot cunntas air an dáil do bí i bPort Laoighire D. Domhnaigh an 19ad lá air a raib teachtaire ó aon Chomplacht dé ag i Laoighis, agus an Leas-Ceann Cata Piaras Béarlaí ina teachtaire ann ó'n gComairle. Do cuireadh Coirte Conntae air bun chum freastail air obair na Féinne i Laoighis.

Fríot deagh-chunntas air ghluaiseacht na hoibre i gConntae an Chábáin.

Do haontuigeadh nár mhór d'Fhiannaibh Fáil i gcoitchinne breis ruime do chur san Luct Conganta agus ball do fholáthar chuige.

Dúnport na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 22 M. na N., 1915.

FORFÓGRA COITCHEANN.

Gunnadóireacht.

1. Féachadh na Cinn Complacht chuige go mbeidh cleachtadh urchuracha ag gach Óglach. Dá bhfuil fá n-a gceannuis uaim sa treachtmhain air a laighead.

2. Bhfortuighidhis na fir chum cleachtadh do dhéanamh ór ireal chomh minic agus is féidir é, i dteannta a bhfagaidh de chleachtadh sa gComplacht.

3. Tá an Ceannaidh Cat agus Sluagh an méid sin do chur d'fhiachaibh air gach druing dá bhfuil fá n-a gceannuis.

Mise,
TOMÁS MAC DONNCADHA,
Ceann Cata.
Riaraidhe na hOileamhna.

Dúnport na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 22 M. na N., 1915.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, the 22nd inst., Commandant P. H. Pearse in the chair.

A report was received of the County Conference held at Maryboro' on Sunday, 19th inst., at which there were delegates from eleven Companies in Leix, Vice-Commandant Pierce Beasley representing Headquarters. A County Committee to take charge of the work of organising Leix was formed.

A very satisfactory report on the progress of organisation in Co. Cavan was received.

It was agreed that Volunteers in general should be asked to take a more active interest in the Auxiliary and to exert themselves to enrol members.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 22nd Dec., 1915.

GENERAL ORDER.

MUSKETRY.

1. Company Commanders will see that every Volunteer in their command gets target practice at least once a week.

2. They will encourage their men to make use of every opportunity of private practice in addition to the usual Company practice.

3. Brigade and Battalion Commanders will ensure the carrying out of this order in all units of their command.

THOMAS MacDONAGH,
Commandant,
Director of Training.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 22nd Dec., 1915.

Notes from Headquarters

TARGET PRACTICE.

A General Order issued by the Director of Training this week calls the attention of all Commanders of units to the extreme importance of target practice. It is to be feared that in many Companies too little attention is paid to what is, after all, the most important part of our training. It is now laid down that every man must get practice at the Company target at least once a week, and in addition that the men are to be encouraged to get as much private practice as possible. It should not be necessary to emphasise the fact that if we fail to hit when we shoot we fail in everything. The one way to learn how to hit is to practise.

THE AUXILIARY.

Again the Executive directs the attention of the organisation to the important possibilities of the Auxiliary. It is not too much to ask the Irish Volunteers to see that during the next few months every man and women in Ireland who sympathises with us be brought into official connection with the Volunteers through the Auxiliary. There is really an immensely powerful body of public opinion behind the Irish Volunteers, and the task is to make that body of opinion effective. It can be done by bringing **all** our friends into the Auxiliary. Volunteers and others who are able to act as organisers or centres of the Auxiliary should communicate immediately with Headquarters.

ORGANISING LEIX.

Leix has to be added to the counties which have reached the County Board stage. At a conference in Maryboro' on Sunday last eleven Companies were represented, and a County Board was elected to take in hand the work of consolidating and extending the organisation and of pushing on training. Headquarters will help.

CAVAN GOING STRONG.

Cavan is well repaying the attention which has been devoted to it. The scheme of county organisation, under the County Board, is working admirably, and the men are reported to be "thinking in guns." This is as it should be. Every unit in every county should be thinking steadily in guns. One's opinion of any corps should depend largely on its answer to the question: "How many guns have you?"

AN IMMORAL PAMPHLET.

WHY THE MARTYRS OF MANCHESTER DIED. By A. Newman. Tracts for the Times, No. 9. Price 1d. Dublin: Whelan and Son.

They died, because, like the Bishop of Limerick, they were Traitors to England. They died because, like Father Nicholas Sheehy, they were Irish Murderers. They died, like the millions that died in the Famine, for the good of the English Empire. They died, in a word, because it was necessary to Defend the Realm.

In these days the Realm can be Defended by merely imprisoning or deporting Irishmen; in those days it was necessary to hang Irishmen. If it were necessary to flay Irishmen or to boil them in oil the thing, however disagreeable, would be done.

Instead of seeing in these men the necessary victims of Empire—the eggs that make up the English omelette—Ireland perversely sees in them martyrs of her national cause. It is an instance of Ireland's peculiarly medieval outlook. She has not yet learned to think imperially.

Mr. Newman's pamphlet is carefully calculated to foster Irish prejudices against England. It is therefore a dangerous pamphlet. Mr. Newman's pamphlet is a glorification of Three Murderers. It is therefore an immoral pamphlet. Obviously, no Irish Volunteer will buy it. The price is one penny, and it can be had post free in quantities of a dozen and upwards.

P. H. P.

THE BODENSTOWN SERIES.

Nos. 1 and 2 of the Bodenstown Series have now been re-printed. No. 1 is Mr. P. H. Pearse's "How Does She Stand?" and No. 2 his "From a Hermitage." The former is issued at a penny, the latter at twopence. Both can be obtained wholesale from Whelan and Son, 17 Upper Ormond Quay, Dublin.

---

leabhar drille dóighláchaidh na héireann

(ar leanmhaint).

Cum gunnaí dhfolmhughadh agus d'íslighadh.

Folamhaighidh—Gunnaí

Agus an gunna mar adubhradh bhí sé sa chéacht deireadh, oibrighfear an bolta roimh siar go dtí go mbeidh na pileuracha go léir caithte amach ar an dtalamh a' meaigirín agus a' bairille an ghunna. Annsan dúntar an orcailt agus luighfear ar an dtriceas agus sáithfe sé an chomla irteach agus cartar an glas sábála anoir agus leaghtar an lámh ar chaol bhaire an ghunna.

Irlighidh—Gunnaí A haon

Agus greim daingean ar an ngunna ag an láimh chlé, beirtear greim sa láimh dheir ag an mbanna air.

Irlighidh—Gunnaí A dó

Cuma san nó an dara hathrughadh chum Írlighte tarréir Ardaighte.

Irlighidh—Gunnaí A trí

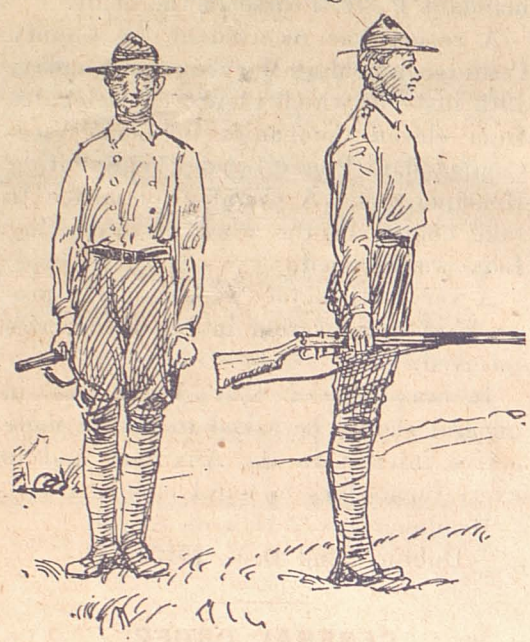
Cuma san nó an tríomhadh athughadh chum Írlighte tarréir Ardaighte

Chum gunnaí do "chrochadh" tarréis íslighte.

Chrochaigh—Gunnaí

Tarréir sthapa an ghunna do leighint amach faid a raghaidh sé, cuirtear an ceann agus an lámh dhear irteach idir an sthapa agus an gunna i dtreo go mbeidh beul an ghunna sáithte anáirde agus an gunna féin siarthearna an dhroma.

Chum gunnaí do "mheádhchaint" tarréis "íslighte"



An aghaidh duine. Cliathánach le duine.

Meádhaidh—Gúnnaí

Caithtear an gunna amach agus beirtear an phuinte láir a mheádhchainte agus beirtear irteach é i dtreo go mbeidh sé ar a chomthrom ⁊ é leis an dtaobh ndear agus an lámh dhear chomh fada síos agus fheudfaidh sí dul agus na méireanna agus an óirdhóg timcheall ar an ngunna. Ná bíodh an lámh dhear ina sthalca.

Irlighidh—Gunnaí

Ardaighfear beul an ghunna agus beirtear ar an ngunna féin ag an mbanna agus bítar mar is gnáth beith tarréir "íslighte."

HEDGE-FIGHTING.

(Continued from page 4.)

the rear edge of a clearing or roadway has been successfully held. Similarly a hedge can be held against a force attempting to break out from another hedge just in front of it. At Aughrim the Irish infantry, driven from the first line of fences, filed off to the flanks and lined the other fences at right angles to the first, pouring an enfilade fire into the attackers.

But a force holding a hedge is better placed. Strong hedges are formidable physical barriers—they hold up attacking troops precisely as if they were barbed wire entanglements. This fact tends to inspire confidence in the defending troops, and makes it easy to induce them to stand and fight to a finish. There is the knowledge that the attacker is certain to be seriously delayed at the last moment, and consequently less fear of the defenders being cut off. The men will stand fast and remain firing up to the last moment.

A further development is that gradual withdrawals are possible. The men may slip away a few at a time, and the first to retire take up their position behind the next fence, where they are well posted to check by their fire any close pursuit of the remainder. Then some more fall back until only a few men are left, who keep up a brisk fire until the very last, when they finally retreat.

An increase in the size of the fields increases the difficulty of withdrawal by reason of being so much more open and there being so much further to go: the men are exposed for some time. In this case the system of gradual withdrawals is particularly useful. Another method sometimes to be used with good results is in single file along the fences. Officers should be practised in the moving of quite large forces in single file—e.g., a company or so. Wide intervals across the open may be used in retirement as in advance, but in this case even a large field will only give manoeuvring ground for a comparatively small body.

BELFAST VOLUNTEERS AND CUMANN NA mBAN.

Xmas Shooting Competition.

A highly-successful shooting competition was organised by the Belfast Committee, for which entries were received from members of the Cumann na mBan, as well as from the Volunteers. A sealed handicap was drawn up, and shooting took place at the Drill Hall, Willowbank, on Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. Keen interest was shown by the competitors, and some fine shooting was made. Friendly rivalry between the Cumann na mBan and the Volunteers gave additional zest to the competitors. On the handicap the first two prizes were secured by cailini, while the honour of the Volunteers was ably defended by the winner of the third prize. Remarkable accuracy was shown by the prizewinners. Miss Kelly, the 1st prizewinner, scored 92 per cent., which was excelled only by one competitor, Tomas Mac hUain, who made the highest individual score, 98 per cent., and obtained third prize. Miss Corr was the winner of the second prize, scored 78 per cent.

MR. SHEEHY SKEFFINGTON.

F. Sheehy Skeffington will speak under the auspices of the Irish Women's Franchise League on January 4th, Tuesday next, at 8 p.m., in the Foresters' Hall, Parnell Square, on "Impressions of America." This will be his first public appearance after his imprisonment, release under the "Cat and Mouse Act," and subsequent tour in the State, and seeing that he has recently been in touch with most of the progressive movements in the United States, having spoken in four of the largest cities, his lecture promises to be of special interest.

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS (Irish-American Alliance)—Drawing for Rifle has been postponed until Monday, 10th January, 1916. All Blocks and Unsold Tickets to be returned to the Secretary, 28 North Frederick Street, Dublin, on or before Saturday, 8th January.

NA FIANNA EIREANN

TRAINING IN OBSERVATION.

On your powers of observation will largely depend your success or failure as a scout. Unless you make up your mind to become a trained observer you can never hope to be of any use as a scout. Your power of observation will depend upon the standard of perfection to which your senses—sight, hearing, smell, and touch—have been trained. The majority of people are very careless observers. For instance, two persons of equal degrees of eyesight will walk through a wood. Both of them will **see** trees. To one of them there will be but trees perceived, while to the other—the trained observer—there will be a perception of the different species of trees, the bark, leaves, size, shape, etc.

The scout, whose chief object is to get information, must be trained so as to observe everything, things near at hand and things far off in the distance. The broken twig, the turned leaf, the footprint, the glint of a rifle, the puff of smoke, the small cloud of dust, the sudden flight of a bird, may convey a message to the trained scout where the untrained observer sees nothing uncommon.

I could hardly exaggerate the importance of training in observation—not only in your capacity as a scout but also in your everyday life. To give serious attention in developing your powers of observation will well repay you, for as a sharp observer you will be invaluable as a scout, and very valuable in ordinary affairs to yourself and others.

In order to become a sharp observer requires steady and continuous practice, and your training need not be confined to your Fianna parades. You should cultivate the habit of noticing things in detail and storing them in your memory. Start now. Try and describe some building you pass every day—your schoolhouse. Your offices or place of business. You will, no doubt, be able to describe it in a general way. You will know its shape, whether it is built of brick or stone, and the number of its windows perhaps; but I will be greatly surprised if you can describe fairly accurately the size, shape, and colour of the doors and windows, to say nothing about the shape of the roof, chimneys, etc. And then you have the cornices, the trimmings, the angles of the roof and a multitude of other details. I am curious to know the result of this little experiment. How many of you have really **seen** the building at all. You have **looked** at it every day, perhaps, for a year or more, without seeing it as a scout should. To-morrow have another look at the building and observe the details, and in the evening again try and describe the building. Next day look out for new details, and continue each day until you can form a perfect mental picture of that building. Then take up another building for observation and you will be surprised to find that you will notice, at a single glance, more detail concerning it than you did in the early stages of your training. Exercises of this sort take up very little time and should be practised on your way to school or business. Remember I do not suggest that you should spend ten minutes staring hard at the building. A good look at it as you pass, noticing and memorising as much detail as possible, is all that is necessary.

Until your training has advanced somewhat you should not try to "take in" a complex object at one look. Begin by noticing the details of the object instead of observing it in its general aspect. If you go into the country don't try to observe half a county until you are able to notice and memorise the main features of a single field. You may say that there is not much to observe about a field. Well, just try. Look at a single field for five minutes, then turn your back and note the details you have observed: the gates, the hedges, the ditches, the gaps, the humps in it, the crops, and so on. You will find in the beginning, as in the case of the building, that you are unable to take in all the details, even of a single field. Keep at the same field until you have all its important features impressed on your memory. Note the depth of the ditches, and how much deeper or shallower they require to be made so as to turn them into proper trenches. Observe the nearest road. Imagine that some of your infantry may have to entrench themselves in that and the adjoining fields before the evening. What hills command that field? That tree, only two fields away on your right, may contain a sniper; how are you going to find out, without experiencing the unpleasant sensation of being "potted."

PADRAIC O RIAIN.

[These notes on Observation will be continued in next week's issue.]

FIRST AID CLASSES
For Members of Cumann na mBan, Thursday afternoon 4 to 5.30, beginning October 29th. Those wishing to attend should apply by letter to Hon. Secs., Cumann na mBan Executive, 2 Dawson Street.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

THE

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 57 (New Series). SATURDAY, JANUARY 8th, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

It should interest Irish people and be a lesson to them to watch how the British Oligarchy is working out things in the neighbour island at present. I may remind the reader of the account of this great institution, the British Oligarchy, given in these columns some months ago. At that time we were getting advice to trust the British Democracy. There has not been just so much talk lately of trusting the British Democracy. The formation of the Coalition Government gave a setback to the value of Democracy shares. The British Democracy is an excellent beast of burden, not quite as docile as a horse or a milch cow, but generally quite manageable by those who study how to manage it. The rulers of the B. D. have found a very successful plan of dividing themselves into two "parties" and exhibiting different programmes and policies. Anything in the shape of a contest captivates the British Democracy and some other democracies. When twenty or thirty men turn up on opposite sides to play a game, the Democracy turns up in its thousands and tens of thousands and pays its hard-earned money at the gate for the privilege of looking on and applauding its favourites. There you have the root principle of party government by the British Oligarchy. They provide the game, the Democracy pays the expenses and looks on from behind the barriers.

* * *

In ordinary times, the game of opposite parties has all the appearance of being played in earnest, even though the part of the Democracy is still to pay the expenses and keep off the ground. We may even suppose that the opposing teams believe themselves to be in earnest. It is about a century since Tallyrand discovered that one of the chief traits of English character was an infinite capacity of self-persuasion. I think it was Carlyle, a Scot, who once summed up the difference between the great Disraeli and the great Gladstone. Disraeli was an Englishman by adoption, and became ruler of England by making a study of English character and acting accordingly. He studied them all, from the Crown down to the Cornerboy. When I was a youngster, the Cornerboy learned to sing ditties in honour of Disraeli. Some of us remember the chorus beginning "We don't want to fight, but by Jingo! if we do," and ending "The Russian shall never enter Constantinople." Disraeli's notion was to captivate Court and Cornerboy with the glories of Empire. Gladstone was all for truth, honour liberty and conscience. Carlyle said that Disraeli had no conscience, but that Gladstone had a tremendous conscience, a grand and glorious conscience. Every day and every hour he offered up adoration and incense to his conscience, and the consequence was, his Conscience was so gratified with all this devotion and worship that it never refused Gladstone anything he demanded of it. Whether that was true of Gladstone or not, it is true of British statesmen in general. They are most honourable conscientious men. They never do anything that is not entirely virtuous. You have only to read their speeches and writings to be assured of this. Take Mr. Birrell for an example. He is the Liberal Minister "for" Ireland. He has declared his belief in the right of Ireland to self-government. He is pledged in honour to a measure of self-government for all Ireland. And his chief, Mr. Asquith, came to Dublin a year and a half ago and announced that we Irish were a Free people. And at this moment, any free Irishman who sells, presents, or otherwise disposes of a common fowlingpiece or a cartridge to fit it to any other free Irishman, unless he has previously got the special permission of General Friend, is liable to be locked up with—I was going to say the common burglar.

* * *

The touchstone of the English game of party government and managing the Democracy is English foreign policy, which includes English policy in Ireland. Our benevolent Birrells will have no hesitation in declaring, conscientiously, that any statement to the effect that England is foreign to Ireland or that Ireland is foreign to England, is a "disloyal" statement which requires to be blue-pencilled and filed away among other "voluminous" evidences that are to justify certain measures at the appropriate time. So I confine myself to stating the fact, for which the evidence is voluminous, that English policy in Ireland, even under Mr. Birrell and since we became a Free People, is a foreign policy. The proofs are up to date. One of them is that, the British State being at war, no British subject may properly sell, give, or otherwise dispose of munitions of war to foreigners without British Government approval; but in this case, Irishmen are more foreign than foreigners, for it has been made unlawful for any Irishman to sell or give a sporting gun or a sporting rifle to any other Irishman without the express and special permission of British authority. I presume that Mr. Dillon has not been consulted about this, for I remember chronicling specially and with satisfaction in this paper a declaration in which Mr. Dillon pledged himself to maintain the right of Irishmen to arm themselves.

* * *

The foreign policy of a State is usually more or less of a continuity. In this respect, the British policy in Ireland observes the character desirable in a foreign policy. For the past twelve months I have been trying to get people in Ireland to take a firm and clean grasp of the fact that the English government of Ireland is a continuity, a principle laid down in our own time by a Liberal Viceroy under Mr. Gladstone's premiership. Ireland, like other countries to which a foreign policy is applied, is a touchstone of the real metal of British party government. Whatever may be done in Ireland in pursuance of a continuous foreign policy, no matter how nasty it may look, is highly moral and virtuous—of this no greater proof is needed than Mr. Birrell himself. Is he not a man of high character, the honourable associate of honourable men, and above all a Liberal? If, therefore,

he keeps Alfred Monahan in prison on the testimony of a hired witness who was listening not at the window but under the window, you may be certain that Mr. Birrell, who hates jesuitical casuistry, will be able to explain that swearing by instruction is sometimes a necessity, and that, if the end to be gained is necessary, the means to gain it are not to be judged by Sunday-school standards.

• • •

When it comes to dealing with foreigners, we see the relations of the British Oligarchy of both parties and the British Democracy in their true light, and we see what the Oligarchy can do and how much the Democracy counts for. At other times we read and hear a lot about that grand free institution, the Press. Just now the tune is not in fashion. We find a Coalition, first of all before the war, when the foreign policy embodied in the Home Rule Bill reached a critical stage; then after the war began, in a Council of Imperial Defence; then in the Cabinet—and the end is not yet. We find a cautiously worked up and creeping policy of Conscription. At first there is plenty of denunciation of what they call the Northcliffe Press. Lord Northcliffe was brought up in Irish Unionist circles, which, to do them justice, have never reached the higher models of political self-righteousness. What the Northcliffe Press does is to find out in advance the private tendencies of the Oligarchy, and then to advocate what it knows to be intended. For months past it has advocated Conscription, and now at last the announcement is made that the Cabinet is in favour of Conscription. No doubt we shall have highly moral explanations, and a fine exhibition of the art of handling the British Democracy. A year ago the British Democracy was so adverse to Conscription that even the most ardent Conscriptionists were afraid to call a spade a spade and talked piously about "National Service." Now that the cant of National Service has served its turn, the "Times" itself has no use for the pious phrase.

* * *

How does all this concern us, who are on the foreign side of British policy, though it would be "disloyal" on our part to call an Englishman a foreigner? It concerns us to this extent—Mr. Redmond's policy still rules the Irish Parliamentary Party, and Mr. Redmond's policy is summed up in one phrase: "Trust the British Democracy." Does Mr. Redmond, after being compelled to the "ifs" and "buts" and "present circumstances" of his recent speech on Conscription, does he still ask us to believe that the British Democracy will have the decisive voice on the fate of Home Rule? Does he guarantee that the British Democracy will be less manageable by the British Oligarchy in regard to an Irish question than in regard to a question that comes home to every household in Great Britain? Does he guarantee that, at the end of the war, the question of Home Rule for Ireland will be an issue of any importance at all for the British Democracy, at a time when the men let loose on a disjointed industrial England from military service and services subsidiary to the war will be more numerous than the whole population of Ireland? What do the Irish people think about it? There is no longer in existence a Ministry or the shadow of a Ministry pledged to Home Rule. The British Democracy has ceased to think about Home Rule. We are asked to believe that they will be on fire for Home Rule because Irish regiments have fought as Irishmen can fight. It is a pity that Mr. Redmond has not read the history of his own country.

• • •

Nearly seven centuries ago, an English Viceroy brought an army of Irishmen from Connacht to crush the liberty of Wales. He came back to Ireland and spent the rest of his life trying to crush the liberty of Ireland. Six centuries ago, an Irish army went to help Edward I. of England to crush the liberty of Scotland. A few years later large English armies were sent to Ireland to crush the liberty of Ireland. At Agincourt, Irish forces formed a large part of the army which helped Henry V. of England to crush the liberty of France, but Ireland gained no respite. "Ancient history," perhaps. Let us come later down. Two centuries ago Mr. Winston Churchill's ancestor brought an army to Morocco, hoping to secure Tangier at the gate of the Mediterranean. Where did he get that army? By Churchill's order, the ordinary words of command in his expeditionary force were given **in the Irish language!** After that we had the Penal Laws in Ireland, the most barbarous policy ever devised for the degradation of any people. Is that too ancient? We are still feeling the effects. Very well; a century ago Rodney's English fleet won a great victory over the French in the West Indies. The Irish poet, Eoghan Ruadh O Súilliobháin, fought under Rodney in that engagement, and wrote a ballad in English, "Rodney's Glory," which bears evidence that the men who bore the brunt and won the day were mostly Irishmen. The independent Irish Parliament voted 20,000 Irishmen to the British Navy, and the British statesmen of that time planned the destruction of that parliament. Richard Lalor Sheil, in the forties, reminded the British Parliament of the victories won by Irish valour in the Napoleonic wars, and within a few years of his eloquent appeal the British Parliament ruined Irish agriculture at one stroke in the interests of British manufacturing industry. Accordingly, when this war is over, we are asked to believe that the British Democracy, disregarding the British Oligarchy, will think of nothing but gratitude for the sacrifices made by Mr. Redmond and the Irish Party.

• • •

At the beginning of the war we were told that the old saying, "England's difficulty is Ireland's opportunity," was out of date. But what if Mr. Redmond had said to Englishmen, "England's difficulty is England's opportunity—now is your time to prove your goodwill to Ireland, not in pledges or promises, or in statutes hung up for amendment, but in the actual performance,"—who would have dared to find fault with him? He has phrased about Ireland keeping faith. Ireland has never broken faith. Ireland never undertook to do anything in return for promises and postponements. What does the present English attitude of promises and postponements and amendments mean, if it does not mean that the old anti-Irish spirit is still the ruling spirit in the counsels of Englishmen? And if that spirit rules now—now after Flanders, now after Gallipoli, now after Doiran—what are we to expect at any time? What are we to expect when these things have receded into the past, and when all England is in the throes of her domestic difficulties following the war? A renewal of pledges and promises from the Asquiths and Birrells at this stage might have some journalistic effect, but whatever their words might be worth—and words are cheap—we do not hear as much as would provide a text for a convention harangue or a leader in the "Freeman's Journal."

• • •

One thing we do know for certain, and that is that the taxation of Ireland, already far too great, is being increased by the million. Every million added to Irish taxation will compel hundreds of thousands of men and women to emigrate from Ireland.

• •

While Mr. Redmond is at "ifs" and "buts" and "please convince me" in Westminster, his lieutenants, the Tommies without khaki, Messrs. O'Donnell and Lundon, are commissioned to go about in Ireland reviling and denouncing the Irish Volunteers, under the pretence of assisting Recruitment! The idea is to strengthen Ireland's position and earn still more gratitude from the British Democracy. No doubt the testimony of these reputable gentlemen and their platform companions, with the tacit approval of Mr. Redmond, will be duly added to the Voluminous Evidence which is to enable Mr. Birrell to strike a blow at the Irish Volunteers when America is not looking. From the first inception of the Irish Volunteers I never doubted that they would have to meet the hostility,

secret or open, of Mr. Birrell and his associates, but I must confess that I felt a deep anxiety about Irishmen claiming to be Nationalists, and in particular the members of the Irish Parliamentary Party, lest they should be manœuvred into the position of sharing the responsibility. That is now the very position into which they have been manœuvred.

* * *

By the time these words are printed the Government's present plans regarding Conscription will have been made public. The London Correspondent of the "Irish Times," on Monday, writes: "I fancy that, when the terms of the Bill are revealed, it will be found that the Prime Minister has constructed a golden bridge, along which **Mr. Redmond will be enabled to make a more or less graceful retreat.**" We now see the estimate in which Mr. Redmond is held by the Unionists, after two years of more or less graceful retreating.

EOIN MAC NEILL

Cumann na mBan

The Thursday afternoon First Aid Lectures at Headquarters will be resumed on Thursday, 13th January, at 4 o'clock.

MUSKETRY.

Target practice is optional to Branches, but the cleaning and care of the rifle, and practice in loading and unloading should be part of the Ambulance training. When a wounded man has been lifted on to the stretcher No. 6 must collect his rifle and other equipment. She should at once find out if the rifle is loaded, and if so remove cartridges. She then follows in the rere of stretcher. Several different types of rifle are in use, and members of Stretcher Squads should be familiar with all, if possible.

Target practice, both outdoor and indoor, is interesting, with .22 miniature or converted rifles. Revolvers are the most suitable weapons of self-defence for Ambulance members, and practice may be got with a .22 revolver, starting at 6 yards and increasing to 12 yards.

A VOLUNTEER PLAY.

We welcome the publication of the little play, "Ireland First," which is, we believe, the first dramatic effort that deals with and was stimulated by the Volunteer movement. Written by Mr. P. Kehoe, who was bred in the traditions of County Wexford, it evidences a first-hand acquaintance with the rural Ireland of to-day.

"C" COY., 3RD BATTALION.

Prize Drawing result:—1st Prize, No. 22553; 2nd, No. 29410; 3rd, 21113; 4th, 29418; 5th, 4210; and 6th, 432.

S. O'DONGHAILE, Sec.

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

It is now a commonplace of criticism to say that the scouting of the Volunteers is their weakest point, but it has not yet been shown wherein it is weak. Recent observation has shown me that there are two separate points of weakness, each associated with one of the two great classes into which the Volunteers may be divided. Roughly, it may be said that the country corps are fairly good at scoutcraft, but fail to apply it to the military situation, while the townsmen, with a pretty good idea of what military information is wanted, lack the scoutcraft that should enable them to obtain it. In other words, the country man knows how to look, but doesn't know what to look for, and the townsman knows what to look for but cannot find it.

* * *

One cannot learn much on scoutcraft from books. Only constant practice will make townsmen proficient in this. But it is a pity to think of the scoutcraft of the country corps being wasted for lack of knowledge of how to apply it. We have a few words to say to these, which may also be read with profit by the townsmen; for, though we have said that they generally have a fair idea of what to look for and what to report on, we have said no more. Their ideas are only fair.

* * *

In the first place, a scout should know that he is sent out for a particular purpose: it may be to reconnoitre the ground; it may be to discover the enemy; it may be to obtain some particular piece of information. Then, realising that, he must conclude that it is his duty to achieve that purpose or die in the attempt. Coming back without information is no use to anyone, whereas (as a militarist friend of mine remarked) not coming back is information.

* * *

It is a common delusion among Volunteers that scouts are sent out to take the scouts of the other side prisoners, frequently with comic results. A sham fight frequently consists for the most part of a game of hide-and-seek among army-corps of scouts, and an umpire may be called on to decide which of two men holding each other up with empty revolvers has captured the other. Sometimes a Volunteer officer, anxiously awaiting information from his scouts, is gratified by the sight of half-a-dozen of them returning, each leading a prisoner. Once, when acting as umpire in a small affair, I stopped a scout rushing in breathless excitement to the rear, and asked him what was his report. "I've seen a scout of the enemy," he said.

Unless an enemy scout actually crosses your path you can generally disregard him; but, if he really does obtrude himself unpleasantly on your view, bayonet him. Don't take him prisoner. You have your information to get.

* * *

If you are sent out to discover the enemy go on till you do so, and then take careful observation of his position, direction of advance, numbers, etc. If you have to reconnoitre the ground you look for the best line of advance for your own side (if you are on the offensive), or for the enemy (if you are on the defensive). This line will be decided by the nature and extent of cover available, the obstacles in the way, such as rivers, marshes, etc., or by the strong and weak points in the defenders' position.

* * *

Having found out what is wanted, return and report. Just as you are not to shirk danger in getting information, so you are not to risk losing it by trying Cuchulain-like exploits on the way home. Give your report fully, directly, and briefly, and if possible illustrate it with maps.

* * *

As to how you are to obtain your information, or how to learn how to obtain it, I can only refer you to Padraic O Riain's page.

E. O'D.

Connrad na Gaedilge—The Gaelic League

BRITISH RAID
ON
IRISH EDUCATIONAL FINANCE

A GREAT PUBLIC MEETING

Of Protest against the withdrawal of
GRANTS FOR IRISH
By the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction will be held in the
ROUND ROOM, MANSION HOUSE,
ON
JANUARY 17th, at 8 p.m.

EOIN MAC NEILL WILL PRESIDE.

Gaels and all lovers of the Irish Language and of Ireland, come and tell the British Treasury what you think of their action.

Clann na nGaedeal Guala le Gualainn.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comairle Ġnóṫa Féinne Fáil ina n'Dúnport tráṫnóna D. Céadaoin an 29 aḋ lá de'n mí so, agus an Ceann Caṫa Pádraic Mac Piarais inaṫaṫaoirleaċ orṫa.

Do fríoṫ na gnáṫ-ṫuarargbála agus do rinneaḋ a lán oibre d'ḟár arṫa.

Do fríoṫ tuarargbála fá leiṫ ar ġluaireaċt na hoibre i gConntae na Gaillimḣe, i Láir na hÉireann i agus i gConntae an Ċaḃáin.

Dúnport na Féinne,
Áṫ Cliaṫ, 29 M. na N., 1915

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening the 29th inst., Commandant P. H. Pearse in the chair.

The usual reports were received and a large amount of business arising out of them transacted.

Special reports were received on the progress of the movement in Co. Galway, in the Midlands, and in Co. Cavan.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 29th Dec., 1915.

Notes from Headquarters

TARGET PRACTICE.

It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of the recent General Order of the Director of Training on the subject of target practice. There was a real need for such an order, as information which reaches Headquarters shows that in many centres the men are getting only occasional practice at the target. In future every man is to get **weekly** practice under supervision of the Company officers, and every man is, moreover, to be asked to avail to the full of such opportunities for private practice as he has. Every man who has a miniature rifle or an air-gun (or who can beg, borrow, or steal a miniature or an air-gun) should take three shots at a target every morning after his morning prayers. A thick board in one's bedroom or a tin can in the back yard is all that is necessary in the way of accessories. Where practice with a miniature or an air-gun is not possible a few minutes spent at "snapping" is the next best thing. Officers are urged to see that this order on target practice is taken seriously by the men. The Organisers and Organising Instructors are expected to report on the matter in the areas in which they are at work.

THE AUXILIARY.

Are you a centre of the auxiliary? If not, why not? Do you mean to say that you have not got ten friends willing to pay sixpence a month for the furtherance of the objects of the Irish Volunteers? What have you been doing all these years if you have not earned the confidence of ten of your friends? It is a confession of ineptitude, of lack of character, for a man to say that he does not know ten people who, on his mere request, will subscribe sixpence a month. Do not make such a confession. Write to the General Secretary at once for an Enrolment Form. The form contains spaces for ten names. Get ten of your friends to inscribe their names and then collect their sixpences. If you can collect five shillings from each in one sum it will save you trouble. There is absolutely no reason why **every** reader of the IRISH VOLUNTEER should not become a Centre of the Auxiliary.

The inevitable slackness of the Christmas time is over, or ought to be. A New Year is with us. This may be **our** year. With all the earnestness of which we are capable we urge every Volunteer Battalion and Company, every Volunteer officer and man to put on a spurt. Speed up the field training; get plenty of target practice; perfect the mobilisation schemes. This is the message of Headquarters to the Organisation at the beginning of 1916.

A CLONDALKIN RALLY.

A splendid concert was held under the auspices of F Coy., 4th Batt., Dublin Brigade, at the Public Library, Clondalkin, on Sunday evening, 2nd inst. The audience was exceedingly large and enthusiastic, the fine hall being crowded to its utmost capacity. The Very Rev. Canon Baxter, P.P., and all the local clergy were present.

Commandant P. H. Pearse delivered a short address. He said that the Irish Volunteers had armed to secure the rights of the people of Ireland, and the first right of every people was national freedom. Their fathers had defined freedom, and there could be no new definition. He directed attention to three matters which, he said, might become urgent at any moment. One was the question of food supply. They must not allow the food of the people to be removed from Ireland to such an extent as to threaten a repetition of 1847. Another was the muttered threats of some of their enemies as to disarming the Irish Volunteers. Let them try it. The third was Conscription. As to that they were absolutely resolved not to allow a single Irishman to be removed from Ireland without his free consent. The place of all who agreed with that policy was with the Irish Volunteers.

The Dublin Brigade

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING 9th JANUARY, 1916.

1.—Classes at Headquarters as usual.

2.—Lecture for Junior Officers on Saturday at 8 p.m.

3.—Inspection of 3rd Batt. at Camden Row on Sunday by the Brigade Commandant. The Battalion will assemble at 10.45 a.m.

4.—Officers will hold themselves in readiness for immediate examination.

EAMONN DE VALERA,
Brigade-Adjutant.

RESULTS OF FIRST AID EXAMINATION.

The following have been successful in the First Aid Examination recently held.

1st Class.

Vol. J. Byrne, C Coy. 3rd Batt.	100%
Vol. W. Stapleton, B Coy. 2nd Batt.	96%
Vol. V. Gogan, B Coy. 1st Batt.	92%
Vol. M. Kavanagh, C Coy. 3rd Batt.	92%
Lieut. G. Murphy, C Coy. 2nd Batt.	90%

2nd Class.

Vol. J. Daly, C Coy. 3rd Batt.	88%
Vol. J. Doulan, A Coy. 4th Batt.	88%
Vol. H. Ridgeway, C Coy. 2nd Batt.	86%
Vol. E. Sweeney, F Coy. 2nd Batt.	86%
Vol. D. O'Brien, C Coy. 4th Batt.	86%
Vol. G. Mahoney, C Coy. 1st Batt.	84%
Vol. J. F. Brooks, C Coy. 1st Batt.	84%
Vol. P. Fuhery, C Coy. 2nd Batt.	84%
Vol. J. Hannon, E Coy. 2nd Batt.	84%
Vol. J. Bracken, A Coy. 3rd Batt.	80%

3rd Class.

Vol. L. Cassin, E Coy. 2nd Batt.	76%
Vol. J. McKenna, C Coy. 4th Batt.	74%
Vol. P. Walsh, G Coy. 1st Batt.	74%
Vol. J. O'Gorman, A Coy. 4th Batt.	70%

SPECIAL COURSE OF TRAINING FOR SENIOR OFFICERS AT HEADQUARTERS, JANUARY 15th to 22nd.

The Special Course for Senior Officers will comprise conferences and lectures on Organisation, Military Geography, Military Engineering, Night Operations, Defence of Buildings, Orders and Reports, Lessons of the War, and kindred subjects. There will be frequent staff-rides.

As previously announced, the course is open to Senior Officers of all Ireland. Every battalion in the country should send at least one officer to the class. Officers other than Commandants and Vice-Commandants are to be chosen by the Battalion Councils, and the names of officers intending to follow the Course are to be reported, before January 12th, to the Director of Training.

THOMAS MacDONAGH,
Commandant,
Director of Training.

Hedge-Fighting for Small Units

THE POINTS WHERE FENCES INTERSECT.

Intersection points of hedges are of the utmost importance. These are the only **proper posts for outlying scouts and snipers.** One man concealed at such a point can enfilade both sides of every one of the four hedges meeting at that point. He only needs to have a small clear space for the muzzle of his rifle. He is also admirably placed to pick off any hostile troops moving across the middle of the fields. It is very easy for these solitary outlying scouts to fall back unobserved from point to point. In this way they can easily keep up a running fight, halting successively at each intersection point of the hedges. It must be remembered that in the circumstances one man will be always able **to fall back faster than the others will dare to follow.** For these outlying snipers will be readily able to give one another mutual support when falling back.

When these outlying scouts are posted at or near the flanks of a position they must be specially alert and watchful. It is their duty in such a case to give warning of and hold off any attempt at a turning movement. Snipers picked for this service should be specially trained men, and should be detailed for the same work on manœuvres and field days.

The manner in which the Germans in the present campaign occupied such localities as the famous "Labyrinth" at Souchez gives on a big scale an idea of the kind of action that in Irish hedge combats would be pursued on a small mobile scale. There the points held were the intersection points of fire trenches and communication trenches, and they were held by machine guns instead of by individual snipers.

THE FIRE ACTION REQUIRED.

The action of the advanced snipers would be quite distinct from that of the main strength of the infantry. The latter would occupy suitable positions in accordance with the principles previously indicated. They must be always ready to open a burst of concentrated fire at a moment's notice and at close range. If they can always do this there is no danger of their being rushed and overwhelmed. Evidently for these short, sharp bursts of fire at point-blank range revolvers and automatic pistols are quite suitable: any ordinary assault would be shattered before the pistols were empty. Coolness and steadiness are required to secure the needed fire-discipline in the men: for this purpose Section Commanders of a resolute stamp are needed. They need only be able to ensure steady fire, which does not need elaborate training on their part. The practice of volley firing by sections is the best peace training for this kind of action. The tactics of Wellington's infantry in the Peninsular War should be carefully studied.

SNIPERS.

The snipers who would be detailed for the holding of advanced points should be picked and specially trained men. They would all be armed with rifles, even in those cases in which the bulk of their companies were not so armed. Their musketry training should be such as to render them dead shots at ranges of a couple of hundred yards; quickness in catching their target being essential. They should also be men of quick intelligence and resource, and these qualities should be developed by constant practice on manœuvres.

SUPPORTS AND LOCAL COUNTER-ATTACKS.

Opportunities will frequently offer themselves for small local counter-attacks. These should be resorted to on every possible occasion. With a view to them supports should be held well concealed in suitable covering positions. As a general rule the supports should depend entirely on the bayonet or pike, rushing in when the firing line is being attacked. The tedious, complicated nature of the advance in hedge-intersected country renders the attacking troops particularly liable to be disorganised by the determined onslaught of even a small body of men. It may happen that a section of the line is forced back, and this might be thought to involve the withdrawal of units to the right and left of the gap. This should not be tolerated. The enemy just where he is successful exposes his own flanks by pressing forward. This exposure of his flank must at once be seized on as the signal for a prompt and energetic counter-attack, which has every chance of success.

All Officers and men of the 1st Batt. wishing to attend the Special Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the late Capt. Thomas Dolan, "C" Company, will assemble at 41 Parnell Square at 9.15 a.m. on Sunday the 9th inst. Full equipment. No rifles.

leabar drille dóglácaiḃ na héireann

(Ar Leanṁaint).

an ṁion-ṁeáḋcaint.

Áṙdaiġteaṙ an ġunna cúṙla óṙlaċ den talaṁ ġan aon aṫruġaḋ eile do ḋeunaṁ.

Má tugtaṙ an t-óṙduġaḋ "ċeiṫṙe ṙanga" nó "dear-dlúṫaiġiḋ," nó "clé-ḋlúṫaiġiḋ," ꝛc., agur an ġunna iṙliġṫe, áṙdaiġteaṙ an ġunna maṙ adubṙaḋ ṫuaṙ ṙaid a beiṙeaṙ ag coṁlíonaḋ an óṙdaiġṫe.

ċum ġunnaí do "aṫruġaḋ" agus iad "áṙdaiġṫe."

Beiṙteaṙ ġreim aṙ ḃaṙ an ġunna ṙa láiṁ ḋeiṙ i dtreo go mbeiḋ

Aṫraiġiḋ—Ġunnaí. A hAon. — ḋṙom na láiṁe in uaċtaṙ, agur, lena linn ṙin, leagṫaṙ an láṁ ċlé aṙ an ġcaol.

Beiṙteaṙ an ġunna tṙearna an ċléiḃ agur leagṫaṙ aṙ an ngualainn ċlé é

Aṫraiġiḋ—Ġunnaí. A Dó. — le linn é ḃṙeiṫ tṙearna, cartaṙ an meaiġiṙín amaċ agur coimeádtaṙ an ġunna go maiṫ amaċ i dtreo ná bainṙiḋ ré leiṙ an ġceann.

Aṫraiġiḋ—Ġunnaí. A Trí. — Sciobtaṙ an láṁ ċlé ċum an taoiḃ ċlé.

Ċum ġunnaí d'aṫruġaḋ ón ngualainn ḋeiṙ go dtí an ġuala ċlé deuntaṙ maṙ adeiṙteaṙ ṫuaṙ aċt "dear" do léiġeaṁ in ionad "clé" agur "clé" in ionad "de r."

ċum ġunnaí d'aṫruġaḋ ó ṫaoḃ taoḃ nuair a ḃíd "meáiḋte."

Cuaiṙteaṙ an ġunna ina ċoilg-ṙearaṁ aṙ aġaiḋ na ġualann

Aṫraiġiḋ—Ġunnaí. A hAon. — deiṙe, i dtreo go mbeiḋ an meaiġiṙín iompaiġṫe amaċ agur a ḃṙuil ón uillinn aníor den láiṁ ḋeiṙ go dlúṫ leiṙ an ġcliaṫán agur an ċuid eile ḋi amaċ díṙeaċ.

Caiṫteaṙ an ġunna tṙearna agur, lena linn ṙin, beiṙteaṙ

Aṫraiġiḋ—Ġunnaí. A Dó. — ġreim ṙa láiṁ ċlé aṙ ṗuinte láiṙ a ṁeáḋcainte aiṙ ⁊ ṙciobtaṙ an láṁ ḋeaṙ ċum an taoiḃ ḋeiṙ.

Beiḋ an ġunna ina ċoilg-ṙearaṁ aṙ aġaiḋ na ġualann clé annṙan ⁊ beiḋ an meaiġiṙín iompaiġṫe amaċ agur a ḃṙuil ón uillinn ṙíor den láiṁ ċlé amaċ díṙeaċ.

Leiġteaṙ ṙíor an ġunna ṙaid na láiṁe

Aṫraiġiḋ—Ġunnaí. A Trí. — clé agur coimeádtaṙ "meáiḋte" maṙṙin é.

capacity to impart the instruction can be found. In Ulster a camp could be established in Tyrone, in Connaught in Galway, in Munster in Limerick, Kerry and Cork, in Leinster in Dublin, Kilkenny and Wexford. The county authorities in their localities should take immediate steps to have their camps in working order in good time. If the matter is taken in hand early it will be possible to guarantee the required training to all the men who should have it.

These camps need not be on a big scale: a thorough grounding in all the elementary work—whether drill or field work—can be obtained if there are enough men in camp to form a section. And it must be remembered that these camps are designed to teach preliminary drill and training to raw officers. Last summer's camps were attended by men varying very much in capacity, training, and rank, and were thus on a different footing.

Such County Boards as are really in earnest should immediately take up this matter and get into communication at once with Headquarters with reference to it. Similarly they should try and work the local end of the business, and give their officers and N.C.O.'s the opportunity to make their necessary arrangements to spend—if not a session—at least a number of week-ends at the camps.

FLEADH NA NODLAG.

The Gaels of Dublin will have a unique opportunity of spending many a happy hour together at the Mansion House next Saturday night. The Committee in charge have left nothing undone that might conduce to the success of the undertaking, and they confidently expect that Saturday will witness a brilliant gathering of the Gaels. A special prize of £1 or value is offered to the wearer of the best lady's Irish costume.

Training Camps for 1916

Now is the time to discuss ways and means for setting up training camps for the coming year. We must look ahead to these camps as the best system of training for our officers. We want such a system to enable Headquarters to cope with the speedily increasing number of corps that are springing up all over the country.

Last summer's camps were an experiment—and a very successful experiment. This year we want more camps; we want them in more centres; and we want them continuing for a longer period. The aim should be to include in the training every officer and every N.C.O. that we have in the country, and for this purpose there must be camps in several widely-separated areas. In no other way can we cover the ground.

What we must aim at is the taking over of this camp training by well-established county bodies helped out by Headquarters. Headquarters should supply the equipment at cost price and superintend the training. The local bodies should provide camp sites, camp commandants, etc.

At the present time in Ireland there are a number of localities where the Volunteer corps are sufficiently numerous to need the establishment of a camp, and where a local officer of the necessary

WITHDRAWAL OF THE GRANTS FOR IRISH.

The monster public meeting of protest which the Gaelic League has decided to hold in connection with the withdrawal by the Department of the fees for the teaching of Irish has been definitely fixed by permission of the Lord Mayor to be held in the Round Room of the Mansion House on Monday, January 17th. Prominent speakers, representative of all shades of Irish National public opinion and of Irish education, are being invited. Already several important meetings have been held in different parts of the country. The Committee of Technical Instruction of Co. Carlow, presided over by his Lordship Bishop Foley, have passed a strong resolution of protest against the mean action of the Board. A deputation from the County Committee of the Gaelic League, having waited upon the County Committee of Technical Instruction in Co. Kerry, this latter Committee unanimously joined in a resolution of protest, as did also the County Committee of Limerick. Numerous other public boards and educational bodies have protested, and it is certain that when the opportunity arises to put its views on record Irish public opinion will show itself as vehemently opposed to the renewed attempt of the British Government's representatives in Ireland to strangle Irish nationality through killing the Irish language.

OFFICERS' TRAINING SCHOOL, CORK.

Owing to the rapid growth of the movement in Cork City and County, and the inability of the City Battalion to supply instructors to all the county corps, the Cork Battalion Council have devised a scheme of training, whereby they will be able to place a trained officer over every corps in the county.

During the past three months, up to thirty instructors were sent out every Sunday to the different parts of the county. These men had in some cases to cycle twenty and twenty-five miles before reaching their destination.

So efficient is the work of these men, that now almost 70 corps exist, and still appeals for help are coming weekly to start new ones. At the rate of progress at present the City Battalion expect that, before January of the new year closes, they will account for at least one hundred corps.

Commandant O'Connell, of Headquarter's Staff, has been secured to conduct the School, so that nothing will be left undone to make the course a complete success.

The course begins January 22nd, and will continue for a fortnight. It will consist of field work, elementary drill, physical drill, and lectures. Each corps sending a man must defray all his expenses, which will not exceed two pounds.

The course is also open to officers or men from any part of Ireland. Those who intend to avail of this unique opportunity for training should apply at once to the Secretary, Training School, Cork City Corps, Irish Volunteers, Sheares St.

All letters should be sent by hand as far as possible, as letters are being stopped through the post.

NA FIANNA EIREANN

TRAINING IN OBSERVATION

(continued).

As your powers of observation develop you will be able to take in quite a large stretch of country and to retain a vivid impression of its main features. But this degree of perfection can only be acquired by consistent practice.

Route-marches should be organised for the special purpose of training the scouts in observation. (Officers will be well advised if they take out only one section at a time on such marches. Each boy will have his own idea as to the important points which ought to be observed. Personal explanations will be necessary, and if you parade the entire Sluagh your route-march will be little better than a lecture in the hall.) On the march you should observe the lie of the land as you go along and notice all special features: houses, churches, towers, farm buildings, rivers, streams, bridges, hills, valleys, woods, isolated trees, telegraph-poles, cross-roads, etc. Frequent halts should be made when any important feature in the country which, in the opinion of the officer in charge of the parade, calls for special note or explanation. During such halts you should ask any questions regarding the things observed since the last halt. When you return you should be able to describe the country covered by the march. Write down the main features noticed and try and get a mental picture of the country, so that you will be able to know that road and district again, even after nightfall.

When you are able to do this you should notice, in addition to the sort of country you pass through, the carts, wagons and motors that pass you, and the different tracks they make; also the different people you meet on the road.

With regard to this last point it is not sufficient to observe merely the height of the person and the colour of the clothes worn. This is about all the information the average boy could give you if you asked him to describe the man who had just passed. You must, if you wish to become a highly-trained scout, be able to observe at a glance his face, colour of his hair, height, build and gait, so that you would recognise that man again if you met him. Now to be able to do this requires special training, and training which may be practised in your spare time. Your training should be carried out on the same principle as I outlined, in last week's notes, regarding the building and the field: notice the details of the object before "taking in" the object as a whole.

Take faces, for example. How often do we forget the faces of those we have met. The reason is that we have merely looked at the person without really **seeing** him. Begin by observing the scouts in your sluagh, and be sure you are an expert before practising on strangers. Don't stare at anyone or your training may come to an abrupt and painful end. Notice carefully the colour of hair, general shape of head, nose, eyes, mouth, ears, chin, etc.

Sit down now and try and describe the features of some scout in your sluagh with whom you are intimate. If you cannot describe him accurately, how can you expect to be able to remember the persons you meet on a route-march. However, it comes easily after a little practice. I would again warn you to avoid staring.

You can judge the height by a comparison with your own. For instance, if your height is five feet four, and you estimate that Corporal O'Connor is about two inches smaller than you, then you can say that Corporal O'Connor is about five foot two. Nearly everyone has some little peculiarity in his manner of walking. Such peculiarity should be noted. You do not require to be a highly-trained scout to notice a policeman by his manner of walking, even when he is dressed in civilian clothes. Men of different nationality walk differently, and women walk differently from men.

I read somewhere an account of how a detachment of Boers was saved as a result of the observation of a Boer woman. The Boers did not believe the enemy was within a great many miles of their encampment, and a man walking on a neighbouring hill against the skyline did not excite any interest. The woman insisted that no Boer walked in that manner, and they sent out scouts to find out the facts. They returned with the information that the enemy were creeping up under cover of darkness.

Two lessons may be learned from this. One from the observation of the Boer woman and the other from the stupidity of the soldier who showed himself on the sky-line.

PADRAIC O RIAIN.

[These notes on Observation will be continued in next week's issue.]

FIRST AID CLASSES

For Members of Cumann na mBan, Thursday afternoon 4 to 5.30, beginning October 29th. Those wishing to attend should apply by letter to Hon. Secs., Cumann na mBan Executive, 2 Dawson Street.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

THE

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 58 (New Series). SATURDAY, JANUARY 15th, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

IRELAND'S RUIN.

Future Increase of Annual Imperial Charge

£8,830,000.

On January 4th MR. GINNELL asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he will now state the estimated annual increase under each head of taxation, with the total increase in the taxation of Ireland under the Finance (No. 3) Bill of this Session, compared with the taxation of Ireland under those heads, and the total, in the last completed pre-war financial year?

MR. McKENNA: The following figures (which must be regarded as provisional only) will answer the hon. Member's question:—

ESTIMATED CONTRIBUTION OF IRELAND TO INLAND REVENUE.

	Estimated total yield in last pre-war year (1913–14).	Estimated total yield in a "Full Year" (including normal increases and the increases under the Finance Act, 1914), the Finance Act, 1914 (Session 2), and the Finance (No. 3) Bill, 1915.	Estimated yield of additional taxation in a "Full Year" due to Finance (No. 3) Bill, 1915.
	£	£	£
Income Tax and Super Tax	1,480,000	4,797,000	1,444,000
Excess Profits Duty	—	690,000	690,000
Excess Mineral Rights Duty	—	—	—
	£1,480,000	£5,487,000	£2,134,000
Total Inland Revenue	£2,942,000	£6,822,000	£2,134,000

ESTIMATED CONTRIBUTION OF IRELAND TO CUSTOMS AND EXCISE TAXATION.

	£	£	£
Spirits	2,338,000	2,160,000	—
Beer	1,041,000	2,350,000	—
Wine	81,000	60,000	—
Tea	606,000	1,340,000	420,000
Cocoa	32,000	70,000	25,000
Coffee and Chicory	13,000	22,000	7,000
Sugar, etc.	303,000	1,332,000	1,058,000
Dried Fruits	49,000	47,000	10,000
Tobacco	1,869,000	2,780,000	820,000
Motor Spirit	27,000	77,000	38,000
Licences and Club Duty	309,000	283,000	—
Patent Medicines and Playing Cards	10,000	16,000	7,000
Imported Motor Cars, etc., Cinema Films, Clocks, and Watches and Musical Instruments	—	90,000	90,000
Other Items	7,000	8,000	—
Total Customs and Excise	£6,685,000	£10,635,000	£2,475,000
Aggregate Total	£9,627,000	£17,457,000	£4,609,000

NOTES

Irish Unionists, no less than Irish Home Rulers, claim that the realisation of their political views is for the good of Ireland. The ordinary Unionist, if you suggested to him that he took no responsibility for the welfare of the country but was content to be the blind follower of a faction, would deny the charge angrily. The ordinary Home Ruler of Mr. Redmond's following or of Mr. O'Brien's, if you asked him was he content to be a factionist saying Amen to everything his leader said, right or wrong, would tell you warmly that he was nothing of the kind. Now a test has come that will prove whether these men and their leaders and their organs in the Press are for Ireland or for a faction.

* * *

Some months ago in this paper I warned my readers that Ireland was being drawn into a most disastrous financial plight. I argued from the Imperial taxation figures and forecasts published under the heading "A Grave Warning," by the London "Times." I calculated from the forecast by a specialist in the "Times" that the Imperial scheme of war finance meant the imposition of at least four millions sterling of increased annual taxation on Ireland for a long period, and I asked people to realise that any such permanent increase must be disastrous to Ireland, involving the ruin of her industrial development, the cessation of the remedial measures won by the sacrifices of her people in the past, and the continued depopulation and impoverishment of the country. I asked the reader to believe that I was writing pointedly and moderately and in no alarmist spirit, though the political heads and organs of parties were playing Mumm.

* * *

No one can deny, no one would have ventured to deny two years ago, that an addition of four milions to the taxation of Ireland would be ruinous to Ireland. The most bigotted Unionist would not have denied it. Unionist or Home Ruler, if you had foretold to them that British statemanship would succeed in manœuvring or manipulating them into acquiescence in such a prospect of oppressive and calamitous taxation, they would have laughed in your face. This week I present them with a carefully prepared account, not my own alarmist forebodings, not the "grave warning" of the "Times" specialist, but an account drawn up by the Imperial Treasury and published by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The account is based on Treasury calculations and estimates, and may be considered as favourable to Ireland, as Treasury calculations and estimates have always been. It shows that the expected permanent increase of Irish taxation is not Four Millions but nearly Nine Millions. It is an increase of more than Two Pounds sterling per annum for every man, woman and child in Ireland, including Lord Iveagh and the most destitute and derelict orphan in the streets.

* * *

Will our Members of Parliament face these figures, or have they all ceased to be representatives of Ireland and become representatives of the British Government in Ireland at £400 a year each? Will Sir Edward Carson face them, will the Belfast "Newsletter" face them, will the "Northern Whig" face them, will the "Irish Times" face them, and discuss them honestly in the interests of their Irish readers? Mr. Arthur Samuels, K.C., is distressed because Ireland has been dishonoured, because we have not received the honour of being compelled into military service by the Imperial Parliament. Mr. Samuels used to be greatly distressed about Irish finance. Are we to suppose that, now that the Empires have turned the world topsy-turvy, Mr. Samuels finds his principles also turned upside down and finds it an honour to be compelled to pay Nine Millions of increased taxation? Mr. John J. Horgan, of Cork, was a champion of Ireland's financial interests in the days before the Sharp Curve; so was Mr. E. A. Aston, of Dublin; so was Mr. M. A. Ennis, of Wexford. The Irish "Daily Independent" prided itself till recently on its vigilant care for Ireland's financial welfare under the Home Rule proposals, and never missed a chance to score off Mr. Redmond and Mr. Dillon. Messrs. Redmond and Dillon, for their part, told us that all would be well if we only held our tongues, voted confidence, trusted them and Mr. Asquith and the British Democracy. Nine Millions additional taxation, and all the spokesmen of our financial interests are fallen silent! What price Silence?

* * *

The Income Tax was imposed on Ireland by Gladstone. Two years ago it came to nearly a million and a half. Now the Treasury expects nearly Five Millions of Income Tax from Ireland. Two years ago the total Inland Revenue from Ireland was under Three Millions (Treasury estimate); now the Treasury expects nearly Seven Millions. In Customs and Excise the Treasury expects to get about Four Millions extra from us. These are "the Free Gifts of a Free People."

* * *

As if this was not enough, Mr. T. W. Russell announces, again in reply to Mr. Ginnell, that his Department proposes to save £6,000, which will run the war for about two minutes, by starving for a year if not permanently the most necessary work of public expenditure—the training of teachers. He "could not state whether there was any British precedent for the suspension of these grants." There is. Ireland is included in the foreign policy of the British Government, and in time of war many financial obligations to foreigners have to be suspended.

The British Premier, nearly two years ago, broke his treaty with Mr. Redmond and went back on his pledge of Home Rule, embodied in his Home Rule Bill. Of course he did so with pain and sorrow and so on. With equal searching of his soul, he has obeyed the demands of the whole reactionary party in England and has become a Conscriptionist. Mr. Balfour, his intimate friend, has done likewise, and has given the reason with characteristic cynicism. The Government's Conscription proposals, we are told, will really only affect a very small number of men. It is a fleabite, not worth considering on grounds of principle or making a big stand over it. So Mr. Asquith and all the Whigs have swallowed militarism, introduced a revolutionary principle, and are going to force it through, just for the sake of this fleabite, and not at all because they belong to the privileged Oligarchy and are glad of the opportunity to get the democracy under military law.

* * *

Last summer I told you how I went to a Volunteer meeting near Pomeroy, Co. Tyrone, how somebody got up a report that the local Hibernians were going to create trouble, how District-Inspector Barrington collected a large force of armed police and came to see the fun, how the meeting was successful, orderly and unanimous, how Hibernians took a prominent part in it, and how it was followed by a conference, which I attended, in the local Hibernian hall (B. O. E.). Whoever it was that wanted and plotted mischief and failed to bring it off has succeeded in another attempt in the same neighbourhood. A concert was held in a schoolhouse near Carrickmore, in aid of a local Catholic charity. Some Irish Volunteers took part in the concert arrangements. I should say that, since the Pomeroy meeting, I attended a meeting at Carrickmore, where again Inspector Barrington and his forces were gathered, at the public expense, to witness an orderly, peaceful, enthusiastic and unanimous assembly in the public street. This was a second disappointment for Law and Order. Better luck next time. Before the Mullaghslin concert, the report of intended trouble was again circulated, and again General Barrington and his forces were on the spot, and these guardians of Law and Order had the satisfaction of witnessing the actual performance about which the report was circulated. An organised attack was made, and the schoolhouse was wrecked. The attacking party, having so far completed the programme drawn up for them, did not disperse until they had very fittingly given three cheers for the police.

* * *

In Tyrone, Nationalists and Unionists are almost equal in numbers, but this attack on Nationalists was not made by Unionists. According to the Press reports it was made by Hibernians. The Press reports, however, have been care-

fully prepared to create the impression that the Irish Volunteers and the Hibernians are two hostile factions in Tyrone. That is not true. Many of the Hibernians in Tyrone are Irish Volunteers, and between the two associations there has never been any hostility, despite every secret endeavour to stir up bad blood among the Hibernians against the Volunteers. I see no satisfaction to be got from following up this mad and disgraceful episode. It would have been disgraceful between Nationalists and Unionists. It is ten times more disgraceful, because even the old foolish feud was not there to palliate it. To the Irish Volunteers of the district I say, make up your minds that you will not be excited over this thing, that you will forgive the authors of it because they are Irishmen and because you refuse to be their enemies. Hide away their disgrace if you can. Show that you are men, with one cause and only one to fight for, and do not be drawn into any quarrel with any faction. Don't play the enemy's game.

EOIN MAC NEILL

A Hint on the Use of Cyclists.

The following extract with reference to the tactics of the German cavalry in the wooded districts of northern France eighteen months ago contains a useful lesson for cyclists in Ireland: "Especially in rear-guard work the absence of mounted troops is likely to lead to infantry being intercepted by German machine-guns and **small bodies of mounted** Uhlans, who hang on to a retiring force with great determination. These Uhlans are bold to excess and do a good deal of dismounted work."

Evidently in a country with plenty of roads an enterprising cyclist officer could do much to demoralise retreating infantry in this way—either by direct pursuit, or by working around the flanks, or by both. He is so much more mobile that infantry can never escape him. The hedges in enclosed country screen his cyclists just as well as the woods in Picardy screened the German horsemen. On one Volunteer field-day this method was successfully tried. A retiring infantry detachment was pursued by cyclists and compelled to fight. The infantry beat off the attack and inflicted heavy loss, **but became immobilised.** The result was that the infantry supporting the cyclists were enabled to come up and clinch the matter.

In reading the accounts of the flight to Wexford after the storming of Enniscorthy and the subsequent retreat from Wexford to Duncannon in 1798, one cannot help wondering what would have been the fate of the English troops if the insurgents could dispose of a few score of cyclists to hang on their rear and compel them to stand to be beaten.

SUBSCRIPTION.—THE IRISH VOLUNTEER will be posted free to any address for one year at a cost of 6/6; for half a year, 3/3; for the quarter, 1/8.

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

If you are of a hasty temper and quarrel with somebody, and in the heat of the moment you throw a soda-water bottle at him you will probably do him a serious injury. If not, it speaks badly for your powers of throwing. The same will happen even if your adversary wears a military uniform, carries a modern rifle, and is backed up by high-class organisation and commissariat. If he comes within range your bottle will put him out of action.

* * *

The point of this observation is that no weapon, given suitable conditions, is despicable. The oldest imaginable gun that can be made to shoot will kill a man if the bullet hits him in the right place. A well-directed stone or bottle will certainly put a man out of action. "But shall we get a chance to use them?" you ask. Of course you will. Hand grenades are in constant use in modern warfare, and you can throw a stone further. Of course a hand grenade does more damage, but still a stone does damage, as much as ever it did. A Volunteer officer who had to hold a position would be guilty of great negligence if, knowing his ammunition supply to be limited, he failed to collect heaps of stones in suitable positions. They would be used to great effect at close quarters. Despise nothing.

* * *

The Irish countryside is full of things useful to the soldier. For instance, there is no lack of barbed wire which could be used for entanglements, and it could be supplemented by great quantities of ordinary wire. The latter can also be used as a low-wire trip entanglement on its own account. Ordinary furze or gorse is a formidable obstacle, but brambles are better still. Both can be used to eke out the supply of barbed wire. An abatis is an easily-constructed obstacle. It consists of branches of trees, about 15 feet long, laid on the ground, butts pointing to the rere, all small twigs being removed, and the larger branches being sharpened and interlaced.

* * *

I have often remarked that a characteristic of most Volunteer officers' plans of action on manœuvres is that they take for granted a certain line of action to be followed by the enemy, and then set to work to forestall that. This is a bad thing to do, for it ties one down to a certain position, which the enemy may be disobliging enough to disregard altogether. Only when the nature of the ground renders more than a single line of action impossible to the enemy is this procedure safe. Nearly always there are three or four courses open to him, and you must be mobile enough to forestall them all.

* * *

I mention this point because I heard that on certain battalion manœuvres recently the defending officer had fixed on a definite plan for the enemy, which the enemy did not employ; but on this occasion the defender discovered his mistake in time. As a rule it is best to decide your general position by the lie of the ground, and not commit yourself to any very definite arrangement until the enemy's intentions are made manifest. Of course, if you can compel the enemy to any particular line of action against which you are prepared, all the better. But that requires a good deal of skill.

* * *

Discipline being such an important point in military training, and ill-discipline being the principal cause of so many Irish defeats, I hope I shall be excused for referring to the matter again. Direct breaches of discipline are rare in the Volunteers, but indirect breaches are as frequent as in other armies. On field-days, for instance, men get out of hand, and it is quite excusable. In the open air and scattered over the country the sense of discipline is naturally relaxed. It is then we should keep the strictest watch on ourselves, so as to acquire the **habit of discipline** in action, the habit which will make it seem the natural thing to obey an order instantly.

* * *

It is also important that orders be obeyed as much in the spirit as in the letter. An officer who has doubts about the wisdom of an order he has received should not on that account set about obeying it in a half-hearted way, and thereby making the failure of its object likely. It would be far better to refuse flatly to obey, because then you could be court-martialled and shot and be out of harm's way.

* * *

A fatal example of this kind of behaviour on the part of a subordinate occurred at the battle of Gettysburg. Lee entrusted the command of the decisive attack to Longstreet, who, not pleased with the plan, and angry that his own alternative had been rejected, delivered the attack without confidence, having made insufficient preparation for it, and neglected to support it properly. The result was total failure, in spite of the gallantry of the attacking divisions. Now had Longstreet carried out the attack as originally intended it might or might not have succeeded. His doubts on that point did not justify him in making failure a certainty.

* * *

This is an extreme case, but there are plenty of others on the pages of military history. And if some of us search our consciences we may find instances of similar behaviour on a small scale in ourselves. There is time for us to eradicate the tendency now, and to acquire that habit of discipline to which I have referred. Anyway, it is always better to disobey openly than the other way.

E. O'D.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comáirle Ġnóṫa Féinne Fáil ina nDúnpoṙt tráṫnóna D. Máiṙt an 4 aḋ lá de'n mí ro, agus an Ceann Caṫa Pádraic Mac Piarais ina ṫaṫaoiṙleaċ oṙṫa.

Do ṙinneaḋ a lán ġnóṫa do ḃain le haṙmáil agus le hoṙdúġaḋ na Féinne.

Dúnpoṙt na Féinne,
Áṫ Cliaṫ, 5 Ean. 1916.

An Comáirle Coitċeann.

Tionólfaṙ an Comáirle Coitċeann i nDúnpoṙt na Féinne D. Domnaiġ an 16aḋ lá de'n mí ro um meaḋaon lae.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Tuesday evening, 4th inst., Commandant P. H. Pearse in the chair.

A large amount of business connected with organisation and arming was transacted.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 5th Jan., 1916.

THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

The General Council will meet at Headquarters on Sunday next, 16th inst., at 12 noon.

Notes from Headquarters

GENERAL COUNCIL.

The General Council of the Irish Volunteers will meet at Headquarters on Sunday next (January 16th) at 12 noon.

MOBILISATION SCHEMES.

Some recent attempts to mobilise Battalions at short notice have been disquieting. There is not much use in having a Battalion if you cannot get it together when you want it. These Notes dealt again and again during the course of last year with the importance of mobilisation schemes. Such schemes must be perfected at once for every Battalion and for every Company. A mobilisation scheme, to be effective, must provide for getting into touch with **every** man in the unit in the minimum of time. The scheme must be such that it shall not depend for its working on any one individual. It must not depend on the Commanding Officer, but must be capable of being carried out smoothly and successfully even in his absence. It must not depend even on Section Commanders. If a Section Commander is away or ill, is his Section to remain unmobilised? Obviously all such contingencies must be provided against, and they can be provided against if the scheme is carefully thought out beforehand with all the local circumstances fully in view. It is the business of Company and Battalion Commanders to set right at once any defects which experience may have shown to exist in their mobilisation schemes. The schemes should be tested in practice at sufficiently frequent intervals, and after each test every partial breakdown should be carefully noted and its cause removed. Headquarters desires to impress Commanders of all ranks with the extreme importance of the points here urged.

TARGET PRACTICE.

We trust that the recent Order on Musketry is being acted upon everywhere. One weekly practice under the supervision of the Company officers is the minimum that Headquarters can regard as satisfactory. If there can be two practices weekly so much the better. And the men should get as much private shooting as they can. There should be frequent competitions in the Company, and inter-Company and inter-Battalion shooting tournaments should be promoted as often as possible. Well-managed competitions are perhaps the best way of encouraging constant practice among the men.

THE CARE OF RIFLES.

Another very urgent duty of officers is to see that their men take proper care of their rifles. Frequent instances have been brought to the notice of Headquarters of rifles which have been kept in anything but a creditable condition by the men to whom they have been entrusted. Rifles should be cleaned at frequent intervals, and when not in use should be kept well coated with vaseline. The number of men who have pull-throughs and who use them constantly is said to be astonishingly small. Every Volunteer requires a pull-through. One elementary precaution which many men neglect is to relax the springs of their rifles when they are putting them away. A spring which is kept under a constant strain tends to wear out. The spring should be relaxed by pressing the trigger.

THE SPECIAL COURSE.

The special course which will be given at Headquarters during the week Jan. 15th to 22nd, is intended for officers holding the higher commands or for representatives nominated by them. The idea has grown out of the conferences of officers held in connection with the recent Convention. The course will provide a week's intensive culture in the higher branches of military study. It is hoped that every Brigade District will be represented by one or two of its best officers.

GENERAL SIR IAN HAMILTON'S DESPATCH.

Every Volunteer officer should try to secure a copy of the London "Times" for Friday, January 7th. It has a supplement containing the full text of Gen. Sir Ian Hamilton's account of the last great attack on the Turkish positions in Gallipoli, illustrated by three admirable maps. It is deserving of the most minute and careful study: never again will any officer be able to get so valuable a text-book for a penny. It is impossible, in the available space, to give anything approaching a complete review of the document, but certain points of interest may be alluded to.

In the broadest sense we must acquit the defeated General of heavy blame. As far as we can judge he was set an impossible task and made a bold bid for victory. Whether success in his design for the attack of August would have meant the fall of the Kilid Bahr forts is questionable. Even had he secured Maidos it might easily have become untenable: for it can be taken under fire by two miles of powerful batteries on the Asiatic shore between Chanak and Abydos, at an average range of two and a half miles. But, at all events, any other project was clearly worse—the attempt had, therefore, to be made.

In the matter of organisation and preparation very elaborate steps were taken: in many respects the measures will serve as a model for all time. But a few points seemingly were neglected. For example, all three of the spheres of operations, Sedd-el-Bahr, Anzac, and Suvla were connected by cable with Imbros, the General Headquarters, but were not connected with one another. There seems no reason why this could not have been done between Anzac and Sedd-el-Bahr at any rate, both of which had been in English hands for months. Again, there was no certain information of the existence of a water supply in the Suvla region, and this entailed great complications of transport. Now, in point of fact, the water was there, and if reconnaissance were possible its existence should have been placed beyond doubt. Considering that the actual attack was largely a surprise to the Turks, it is reasonable enough to assume that reconnaissance was possible.

Briefly, the scheme of attack was this: In the southern area at Sedd-el-Bahr the 40,000 troops there were to deliver a holding attack, pinning as many troops as possible to that theatre and gaining all the ground they could. The main attack was to be delivered against the Sari Bair heights from Anzac with 35,000 men. The newly-arriving troops (30,000 strong) were to land on the northern flank at Suvla and second the Anzac attack by operating against the Turkish right. At both Sedd-el-Bahr and Anzac the troops knew the ground well; at Suvla the men were absolutely new to the terrain, besides being quite raw troops. The preliminary movements were all successfully carried out and a certain measure of success attended the operations in all three theatres. In a short review, however, it would be impossible to go into any details about the fighting.

One noteworthy feature of the attacks is the very small proportion of artillery to infantry. For example, at Anzac Gen. Birdwood had only 72 guns—about two per 1,000, "with naval support from two cruisers, four monitors, and two destroyers"; and naval support under the circumstances has only a very limited effect. At Suvla only 20 guns went with the landing force, but it was not expected that very formidable resistance would be encountered here. But upon the whole it is clear that the artillery support was small against very formidable positions. Even so, the resolute night attack from Anzac obtained a complete measure of success up to a certain point. It is possible that a better result at Suvla might have clinched that success.

About Suvla Gen. Hamilton's despatch is less illuminating than the other operations. All the same it is possible to see the germ of failure in some points touched upon. There certainly was in the command the old sequence, "Order, Counter-order, Disorder," whoever was to blame for the mistakes. Quite possibly no one in particular could be singled out as responsible. Commanders unfamiliar with the ground, assisted by raw staffs, to manœuvre raw troops over difficult country—in all conscience the task was hard enough for everyone. In many places the troops were out of hand. "In some cases the hose had been pierced by individuals wishing to fill their own bottles; in others lighters had grounded so far from the beach that men swam out to fill batches of water-bottles. All this had added to the disorganisation inevitable after a night landing, followed by fights here and there with an enemy scattered over a country to us unknown." This was on the night of August 7th: while the advance parties were engaged in a series of bitter little fights with the Turks in the hills, the bulk of the command was disorganised on the sea shore. The result was that next day, August 8th, was wasted, and the Turks, weak enough in numbers up to that, were heavily reinforced. When the attack was finally launched it was too late for it to succeed.

It is all very well to say, "General, this should have done such-and-such," or "General, that should have done the other." The real question is: were the courses suggested physically possible? In one word the cause of the Suvla failure was **indicipline,** neither more nor less. If General Hamilton or General Stopford is to be blamed at all, then we must blame them for having been born such as they were. Only men of a truly iron stamp have ever achieved anything with raw troops—such men as Washington, or Görgei, er Chanzy—and even they have not done it all of a sudden. For the Volunteers the lesson of Sir Ian Hamilton's despatch is this one of discipline. The raw troops at Suvla accomplished nothing: the war-inured men at Anzac met formidable difficulties in a way well worthy of careful study. Many of the minor tactical incidents of the four-days battle are also most instructive, and many practical hints are to be gained from them.

A Note on Armament

Some very interesting information on the question of armament in the infantry warfare of to-day has been recently given by Australian officers, as the result of their experiences in the Gallipoli campaign. The views of these officers are particularly instructive and encouraging to the Volunteers.

First of all the opinion was expressed that to arm the bulk of the infantry with rifles was not the best way at all. In their view the most profitable method was to give rifles to snipers only. These would be picked marksmen, adepts at snap-shooting and trained to take the fullest advantage of cover. These men would not, in the usual course, be risked in the assault at all. On the other hand they would be kept in action in their own special way for long spells at a time.

A different armament was suggested for the remainder of the infantry—the cannon-fodder. Their weapons and training would be designed for hand-to-hand combat. Their ideal firearm is a pistol of some sort, a weapon suitable for handy, quick, rough-and-ready work at short range. For bayonet-fighting a handy pike was recommended—one not too long. It was found that the rifles of the cannon-fodder were merely used as handles for their bayonets, and besides being expensive they were in other respects not the best handles. Another recommendation was that the pike-head should be detachable so as to be capable of being used as a dagger upon occasion.

These suggestions largely agree with the French methods in their great attacks on the Western front. There the troops assigned to the duty of clearing out the trenches and dug-outs in an advance are armed with revolvers and clasp-knives.

For more than a year past Headquarters have pointed out a general similarity between modern trench warfare and fighting in an intersected country like Ireland. It is very gratifying to find the theories put forward for the guidance of the Volunteers directly confirmed by officers having several months experience of continual desperate fighting.

leabhar drille dóighláchaidh na héireann

(An Leanmhaint).

Cum gunnaí do "leagadh" agus do "tógáil" tarís "íslighte."

Leagtar an gunna ar an dtalamh go réidh, ar thaobh na láimhe deire, i dtreo go mbeidh an meaigirín iompaighte ar thaobh na láimhe deire. Nuair a beirear ag leagadh an ghunna ar an dtalamh beidh an lámh dhear ar aon line le bárr na coire. "Dírighthear" go mear annsan.

Leagadh—Gunnaí.

Tógaidh—Gunnaí. Chomhtar ríor ⁊ tógtar an gunna agus bítar mar a beifidhe tarís an "Írlighte."

Taisciughadh gunnaí.

Beidh an "rcaoth" ina dá rang agus na gunnaí írlighte aca. Raghaidh an rang deireadh coircéim ar aghaidh ⁊ iompóchaidh riadh bairilli a ngunnaí i dtreo an rangha thoraigh. Carfaidh gach duine ra rang thoraigh timcheall agus cuirfidh sé bar a ghunna idir a dá choir.

Taircighidh—Gunnaí. A Haon.

Deunfaidh na huimhreacha corra ra rang thoraigh béil a ngunnaí do chlaonadh chum beul gunnaí na n-uimhreacha gcothrom, i dtreo go mbeidh na bairilli ríor, agus leagfaidh gach duine aca a lámh dhear ar chaipín roic a ghunna. Annsan beurfaidh gheim ra láimh dheir ar ghunnaí na n-uimhreacha gcothrom ar an gcuma gceudna agus deunfaidh gach duine aca chroca an dá ghunna bheidh aige do choimeádh ruar le méireanna thoraigh agus le hórdóga a dá lámh agus cuirfidh sé béil an dá ghunna thearna a chéile chum an dá chroich do chur in aice a chéile. Leighfidh gach uimhir chothrom a lámh dhear ríor tena thaobh.

Taircighidh—Gunnaí. A Trí.

Sa rang dheireadh, beidh gheim ag gach uimhir chothrom ar a ghunna, ag an mbanna agus rtrapa an ghunna in uachtar aige. Claonfaidh sé beul an ghunna amach agus chothfaidh sé na chroca ar a chéile tríd an dá ghunna bheidh or a chomhair amach ra rang thoraigh ⁊, tena linn rin, árdóchaidh sé bar a ghunna féin chomh hárd agus ir sábhadh é. Sa rang thoraigh, iompóchaidh gach uimhir chorr bairille a ghunna i dtreo na huimhre cothruime ra rang dheireadh, ⁊ cuirfidh reirean rál bhaire a ghunna tuairim sé n-órlach ar dheir barr a choire deire chum an chairn do dhaingniughadh.

Hedge-Fighting for Small Units

COUNTER ATTACKS.

One way in which a counter-attack could be made in such a case would be as follows:—It might happen that a drain affording suitable cover existed inside the position of the firing line and running back at right angles to the front. Men armed with pistols and pikes could be held in readiness here with their pikes lying flat in front of them. So posted they could spring quickly to their feet, and firing a volley, charge home. They would be where supports should be—close up, and flanking the enemy's advance: they could thus attack with great speed. As a matter of fact, in Ireland the attacker exposes two flanks for every separate field he advances across. He cannot avoid this because the longitudinal fences split up his advancing line.

Another possible situation for pikemen for the counter-attack is in front of their riflemen—where a trench exists on that side of the hedge. In this case a good standard of discipline would be required to steady the men while being fired over, especially at first. Men so posted should only charge when success was practically assured, as they absolutely mask the fire of their firing line.

In addition to counter-attacks by a charge, many opportunities for counter-attacks by enfilade fire will present themselves. Hedge country will always leave hedge screens on the attackers' flanks between which they must press on. In that case they can easily be fired into either by flanking men of units still in position, or by small parties pushed forward from the rear.

CHAPTER IV.—OFFENSIVE ACTION.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Although the infantry attack in very intersected country is certainly very difficult, it is still possible, and would sometimes have to be carried out. In some ways the nature of the country might be turned to good account.

For example, it will often be possible to manœuvre considerable bodies fairly close up to the enemy and still hold them safe from fire. The fences will prevent a very extended field of fire. But a necessary precaution will be scouts pushed out ahead of the main body. In this case the main body might easily be safe from fire though not at all out of range—for two or three thicknesses of intervening fence might be available as protection.

In one important respect the close fighting in Ireland would differ from the Flanders fighting—it would often be possible to manœuvre against a flank, to bring enfilade fire to bear, and thus to facilitate the advance of other sections of the line.

CONTACT BETWEEN UNITS.

One of the greatest difficulties attending an advance across country in Ireland would be that of keeping contact between the several positions of the attacking force. For this reason it is most important to have a sound system of common training to get the men to think alike. Then each man would know what to expect his neighbour to do, and for his own part what would be the likeliest way of coming to his neighbour's assistance. In the case of an attack on a large scale a rough general unity could be restored by the merging of the foremost lines in successive waves. Only a portion of the force should be engaged at first, a large proportion being held in reserve.

Commonly a force moving across country will lose touch with the bodies on its flanks, or even with its own flankers. In such cases it may be necessary to throw out connecting files or parties to prevent hostile bodies penetrating into the gaps between the forces. When the original bodies again come into contact these parties should be withdrawn.

CONTROL OF A UNIT.

When possible a gateway should be used for the passage of the troops: if possible the gates should be taken off their hinges to prevent delay with succeeding bodies. A responsible officer or N.C.O. should remain at the gate to make sure that everyone has passed through. If no gates or gaps exist a gap must be made. Masonry walls must be climbed.

In the case of fairly small bodies it might be possible by making the flank of the unit correspond to the flank of the field to preserve control. In this case, the entire company, section, or as the case might be, would be all in the same field and so under immediate supervision. This will naturally call for a high level of tactical ability on the part of the section leaders.

COVER.

The men should be compelled to make the utmost use of cover. Otherwise sudden—though slight—losses might cow and demoralise them. The varying heights of the fences would often call for different ways of advance. Sometimes the men could sprint, sometimes crouch, sometimes crawl, sometimes roll over and over. The danger spots are the gaps and gates. Thorough combat reconnaisance will save the men from being suddenly fired into at close range. The need of taking cover can be impressed on the men at manœuvres if proper supervision is exercised.

POINTS OF DIRECTION.

If the advance is to be carried out for any considerable distance a distinct point of direction should be indicated. The formations and mode of advance dictated by tactical considerations might necessitate the temporary loss from view of the original point of direction. For this reason it might become necessary to assign a new point of direction until the former one should be recovered to view. In such an advance there might also arise the further difficulty that units might cross each other's line of advance; especially if the country were very close and the several units made different rates of progress.

IRISH EDUCATION.

Withdrawal of Grants by Department of Agriculture.

The country is at present seething with discontent at the grossly unfair treatment of Irish educational bodies by the British Treasury. Generally speaking, the people of this country ought not to be surprised at the efforts of the British Government to keep the people of Ireland steeped in darkness and ignorance by depriving them of the means of education. It is to be wondered at,however, that they should let loose their bigoted anti-Irish prejudices at a moment when from hundreds of platforms all over the country Irishmen are being appealed to by them to aid them in the fight to preserve small nationalities abroad. The Minister of Education in England, in answer to a question by Mr. Boland, M.P., has admitted that no purely educational grants have been withdrawn in England. The contrast between the treatment meted out to Ireland and England is instructive, and should be noted by Irishmen. The Cork County Committee of Agriculture has denounced the action of the Department in a vigorous resolution, which was proposed by the Most Rev. Dr. Brown, Bishop of Cloyne, and in the last few days the County Committees of Kilkenny, Queen's Co., Wexford and Roscommon have endorsed the action of the other County Councils and County Committees whose resolutions of protest have already been published. The Dublin Municipal Council and a large number of public bodies and educational institutions and societies all over Ireland have also nominated representatives to attend the monster meeting of protest which is being held under the auspices of the Gaelic League in the Mansion House on Monday, 17th inst., at 8 o'clock. The British Treasury and their willing agents in the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction can make up their minds that there is enough life and vigour left in the Irish people, who have fought to maintain their nationality for 700 years, to defeat the latest mean and underhand attempt of the English Government to strangle that small nationality which, although close to their own doors, they seem so anxious to destroy, while at the same time seeking its help to preserve small nations abroad.

The Dualla Volunteers carried out very instructive and interesting field operations on Sunday, 2nd inst. Having divided the Company into two forces, Cap. Colm O'Loughlin (of Dublin) and Sec. Cour. James Ryan took charge of one force, which was to act on the defensive. The attacking force was under the command of Sec. Cours. Patrick O'Donnell and P. Looby. The defending force was well placed in ambush on the slopes of a hill, which commanded a good view of the surrounding country. But such was the skill with which O'Donnell and Looby handled their men, and so well did their scouts do their work, that the defending forces were taken by surprise from the rear and badly beaten, the attackers only losing a small proportion of their men. Discussing the fight afterwards, Cap. O'Loughlin expressed himself greatly pleased with the way in which the men made use of cover, but at the same time he warned some of the more ardent spirits to be more careful in keeping low whilst passing gaps or getting over fences.

"IRELAND FIRST."

The Annual Concert of the Colmcille Branch of the Gaelic League will be held on Friady, 28th inst., in the Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The Committee are leaving no stone unturned to ensure success. Permission has been obtained to produce the new drama, "Ireland First." Messrs G. Crofts, Sean Connolly, Mollie Byrne, Sighle ni Brion, and P. Ua Suilleabhain will contribute songs, dances and recitations. The tickets are now on sale, 6d. and 1s. Special seats can be reserved on application to the Secretary at 5 Blackhall St.

MR. SHEEHY-SKEFFINGTON'S IMPRESSIONS OF AMERICA.

A crowded house welcomed Mr. Sheehy-Skeffington at the Foresters' Hall, Dublin, on the occasion of his first public appearance in Dublin since his release from prison. Mr. Sheehy-Skeffington has recently returned after a tour in the United States, and he was announced to speak under the auspices of the Irish Women's Franchise League on his "Impressions of America." Mr. James Connolly presided.

In the course of his interesting address Mr. Sheehy-Skeffington said that his impressions of America might be summed up in the reply he made to those who advised him to remain in America rather than face imprisonment by returning: "It is better to be in jail in Ireland than out of jail in New York." His experiences, he said, were confined to the Eastern States, but he was informed that a better spirit prevailed in the Western States, and in Chicago, the furthest western point he touched, there was a better spirit. The German psychology, with "thoroughness" for its special note, was the very opposite to the American; the German Press propaganda had accordingly been clumsy, and had repeatedly rubbed American sentiment the wrong way. Only where the Germans were guided by the advice of the Irish had they been in any measure successful. That advice had been freely given; for the Irish in America, so far as they were organised and articulate, were entirely pro-German. Redmond's hold on them had absolutely disappeared; and such delegates as he sent out were unable to address a meeting. The United Irish League of America was entirely opposed to Mr. Redmond's policy, and Mr. Michael J. Ryan, President of the U.I.L., had spoken on pro-German platforms. The entire Irish-American Press, with the exception of the "Chicago Citizen," was as opposed to Mr. Redmond's policy as the "Gaelic American." Under the pressure of the war, the Irish and Germans in America were cementing a strong political alliance.

NA FIANNA EIREANN

TRAINING IN OBSERVATION

(continued).

Other ways of training the eyes, as well as those mentioned by me in the last two issues of this paper, will suggest themselves to any scout keen on his work. The Quartermaster of the Dublin Fianna suggests the following excellent exercise calculated to develop your quick observation and very suitable for scouts living in towns: Observe the contents of a shop window for a few minutes and, turning your eyes away, get a pencil and paper and endeavour to recall and describe as many articles as possible. It is related that Houdin, the great French conjuror, practised this exercise and was able to describe, by taking a single glance as he rushed passed, every article displayed in a large shop window filled with small wares. Although the training of the eyes is of first importance to a scout, the other senses—hearing, smell, and touch—must also be developed to their fullest extent. On night work a scout depends more on his sense of hearing than on his eyesight. The snap of a twig may reveal the whereabouts of a hidden enemy. At night sounds unnoticed during the day can be heard quite a long distance. By placing your ear to the ground, or against a stick touching the ground, you can hear sounds much more distinctly. The sound of a man's footfall, the beat of a horse's hoof, the noise of a cart or bicycle can be heard in this way when a long way off. A man's voice carries a considerable distance in the stillness of the night.

The best way to develop the sense of hearing, of smell and of touch is to go into the country at night—the darker the better—and practise for yourself. Listen for sounds and try and find out their meaning. Observe the movements of birds at night. Small birds, thrushes, larks, blackbirds, etc., as well as hens, ducks and geese, make a noise when disturbed. Cautiously discover the disturbing element. Sometimes cattle utter a peculiar lowing which can be heard a mile away. It is a warning that someone has passed through their field. Of course the lowing of cattle and bleating of sheep are natural sounds at night. Discover for yourself the warning note.

A scout will find his night-work most interesting, and if he is called on to scout "in reality" he will find that the night is safer for the work than the day. That is, if he is a trained scout and not a blunderer.

Your sense of touch can be developed on your night walks. A scout does not use that free swinging step of the parade ground at night. He pushes his feet forward, touching the ground first with his toes before putting the weight of his body on his foot. In this way he is sensible of every change in the ground he covers, and can quickly recognise the gravel road from the macadamised road and the stubble field from the fallow. He is thus sure of his ground and is not likely to walk into a swamp or river in the dark.

The non-smoker will get the smell of tobacco a long way off, and as regards the sense of smell the non-smoker has a great advantage over a scout who smokes. Learn to distinguish between the smell of a fire burning, food cooking, men smoking, farm yards, stables, etc., so that when you sniff the air you can tell if there is a camp or a farmhouse near at hand.

In conclusion, I would urge you to accustom yourself to being out in the open field at night. By practice alone can you develop your "night eyes." For the want of them a member of our Headquarters Staff cycled into a cow grazing on the side of the road. He saw stars! The poor cow thought it was an earthquake. But that is a long story, and it happened before he took scouting seriously.

PADRAIC O RIAIN.

[An article on Map Reading will appear in these columns next week.]

FIRST AID CLASSES

For Members of Cumann na mBan, Thursday afternoon 4 to 5.30, beginning October 29th. Those wishing to attend should apply by letter to Hon. Secs., Cumann na mBan Executive, 2 Dawson Street.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

THE

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 59 (New Series). SATURDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

In the art of subtracting millions, the British Treasury can always give me points. Last week I stated at £8,830,000 the additional taxation of Ireland according to the Treasury figures supplied to Mr. Ginnell by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The correct amount is £7,830,000. That, however, is not the whole bill. There are more War Budgets still to come.

* * *

There are signs that the people are beginning to understand what it means to be taxed with an increase of two pounds a nose, man, woman and child. Ireland is not a consenting party to this taxation. We are nominally represented in the Imperial Parliament, but when it comes to any critical question like this our representation is annulled. Irish Members of Parliament have no mandate or authority, express or implied, from their electors to consent to this ruinous taxation. The electorate has never been consulted about it. This taxation has no more claim to respect than the taxation that caused the American people to assert their independence and to win it. The British Government does not impose a war-tax of two pounds a head on the people of Canada or Australia or South Africa, because it dare not.

* * *

Mr. Birrell, Chief Secretary for England, took in on himself to lecture Irish people about loyalty. He handed over the government of Ireland to a foreigner, an ex-military satrap from the Gold Coast. Now he is lecturing us about patriotism. In the presence of Ireland's "representatives" he told the Imperial House of Commons that "Patriotism in Ireland was much too local an affair. **We all want** to adopt the wisest course to **convert** and to extend that local patriotism into a wider patriotism. (No dissent from Mr. Redmond.) Without that the Empire becomes nothing more than an enlarged Hanseatic League of greedy commercial communities (cheers). We want more than that—we want to introduce into it a real Empire patriotism." Yes. Mr. Birrell and those who cheer him want to steal the name and insignia of patriotism to glorify a league of commercial greed. "And yet patriotism begins at home. "In dealing with a country like Ireland they must consider how best they could help, and not hinder, the slow but gradual progression that was noticeable in Ireland, whereby its somewhat **narrow patriotism** was gradually extending into a wider one." "You object to our way of dealing with the Irish question," said a member of the defunct "Home Rule" Government to a critic. "No," said the critic, "it is not to your dealing I object, it is to your shuffling."

* * *

Mr. Birrell shuffled along with his lecture on the New Patriotism. "Patriotism is the most potent mixture the world has ever seen. But it is a mixture. It is the oddest compound. It is made up of prejudices, of passions, of memories, of little scraps of history, imperfectly taught for the most part, but partly remembered and frequently completely misunderstood (loud laughter). It is far truer of patriotism than it is of ambition, that it is 'like a circle in the water.' It widens and widens, beginning at home, until it contains within its glorious ambit far distant lands and populations long since emigrated from their own shores, but still retaining much of the old feeling (cheers). Mr. Birrell forgot to complete his quotation from Shakespeare:

> Glory is like a circle in the water,
> Which never ceases to enlarge itself
> Till by broad spreading **it disperse to nought.**

* * *

This is what Mr. Birrell, a political souper without the soup, wants to do with Irish patriotism, and what, in the face of Mr. Redmond and his followers, he claimed to have succeeded in doing for them, if not for the people who elected them. "But," he continued, "it is a most delicate affair—a most difficult operation. We might easily injure it and thrust it back for half a century by hasty, ill-considered, and unsympathetic treatment (hear hear). It is a plant which requires to be nurtured and watered and watered, and never, never, to be pulled up rashly by the roots."

War has its good points after all. When war is in, truth is out. Only for this war we should not have heard from a British Minister this cynical avowal of the purpose of British Home Rulers in their "dealing" with Irish Nationalism. What have Mr. Redmond, Mr. Dillon and Mr. Devlin to say about the doctrine openly uttered in their presence by their Liberal Home Rule confederate? Will they venture to repeat this doctrine to any audience in Ireland? We may thank the war for it that the net is now spread openly in our sight. We are to disavow our Nation and all its sacrifices in the past, and the "delicate" inducement is the privilege, among others, of paying a fresh war tax of two pounds a year in future from every man and boy, from every woman and girl and baby.

* * *

Mr. Birrell's "Empire patriotism," to which he wants, "they all want," to "convert" Ireland, is not patriotism even in England. No Empire ever did or ever can take the place of a Nation in the love and reverence, the passionate affection and self-denying devotion of a Nation's children.

* * *

All the time, the delicate and difficult operation is going on here in Ireland. The war tax is being extracted. Alastair MacCabe has been in jail for four months without trial. Ultimately, perhaps, he will be brought before a suitable tribunal to be tried for a crime of which no Irishman, Nationalist or Unionist, is ashamed, the crime of being in possession of "munitions of war." Terence MacSwiney, Irish Volunteer captain and organiser, was seized in his bed the other day by Mr. Birrell's police and thrown into Cork jail without any charge whatsoever; as was also Thomas Kent, Irish Volunteer, of Castlelyons. The "evidence" will be laid before the Castle lawyers, and the crime formulated when they have found out the most suitable course to adopt. "A delicate and difficult operation." The Irish people will want to know whether those who hold **their** commission are secret partners in this operation or remain true to the trust confided to them. The war has unmasked Mr. Birrell. We now know what he is here for. We want to know what the Irish

Party is there for. We know what Mr. Birrell's Plant is, and we have seen something of the "watering and watering." Is it the policy of Messrs. Redmond, Dillon and Devlin—we need not ask about Mr. T. P. O'Connor—to aid and abet the watering of Irish Nationalism "till by broad spreading it disperse to nought?" The accusation is not mine. Their assent to the delicate and difficult programme has been publicly claimed by their ally, Mr. Birrell, in their presence and in presence of the whole British Parliament.

EOIN MAC NEILL

The Dublin Brigade

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING 23rd JANUARY, 1916.

1. Signalling Class will in future be held at 8.15 p.m. instead of 8 p.m.

Other classes as usual.

2. Lectures for senior Officers commenced on the 15th and will be continued till 22nd inst.

3. Lectures for junior Officers on Tuesday and Saturday at 8 p.m.

4. On Thursday the 3rd Battalion will assemble at Camden Row. The 4th Battalion at Kimmage at 7.45 p.m. sharp. Practice in night operations.

TIME TABLES OF CLASSES.

First Aid, etc.—Monday, 8 p.m.
Stretcher Drill, Camden Row, Friday, 8 p.m.
Engineering—Friday, 8 p.m.
Field Work, Father Mathew Park, Saturday, 4 p.m.
Musketry—Friday, 8 p.m.
Armourers—Wednesday, 8 p.m.
Signalling—Monday, 8.15 p.m.
Lecture for Junior Officers—Tuesday and Saturday at 8 p.m.
Training for Sub. Officers, Camden Row, Wednesdays and Saturdays at 4 p.m.

E. DE VALERA,
Brigade Adjutant

Cumann na mBan

Since the new year two new branches have been started: one in Killeeneen, Craughwell, Co. Galway, and one at Carrickmore, Tyrone.

At the last meeting of the Executive the Secretaries were asked to notify branches as soon as possible about Cumann Na mBan flag day. Flags, boxes and all requirements are in preparation, and a leaflet containing full particulars will be sent to all branches. It is hoped every branch will take up the idea with enthusiasm. The Executive expects to hold a very large Whist Drive on Thursday, February 3rd. Tickets will be issued immediately, and all lovers of Whist and beautiful prizes are cordially invited to come.

TRAINING.

SIGNALLING SQUADS.

When signalling squads are able to send and read correctly words, figures and miscellaneous signals which will be found in books dealing with the subject, they should be divided into two stations having three persons in each, each person taking a turn at the different duties. This requires a lot of out-door practice at various distances so as to become accustomed to the different flags used, and learn how to post the stations to the best advantage. Branches should arrange for practice with each other, especially the country ones, as they will find plenty of use for good signalling. When the distance to be signalled is too great for two stations a transmitting station should be used. This would be posted about midway, and if necessary more may be used. By this means messages can be sent a very long distance, and by hard practice speed will be assured.

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

Since the inception of the Volunteers two definite and opposed points of view have been generally held among them, and by the majority have been held in alternation, according to the persuasive power of the prominent supporters of each. It is a pity to attach labels to them, especially such worn-out and misused labels as those I have in mind, but in the interests of brevity—a military virtue—I shall refer to these views as Optimism and Pessimism.

* * *

To put the thing in a nutshell, the Pessimists are those who think the Volunteer cause hopeless because they are not all armed with modern magazine rifles, with a million rounds of ammunition per man, and because they have not sufficient machine-guns to give one to each Company, and are destitute of howitzers, aeroplanes and dreadnoughts. The Optimists, on the other hand, think that a Volunteer armed with a loy is a match for a well-equipped foreign soldier. Both parties are equally wrong, and if the rank and file of each persuasion has interpreted these columns, or any other part of the VOLUNTEER, as supporting their point of view, they have only themselves to blame. They have not read us properly.

* * *

Take the Pessimists first. They feel that we are on their side because we have consistently upheld the principle that a single man in his shirt is no match for a battalion of trained infantry with machine guns. We stick to that doctrine still. Nay, more, we are prepared to go further and say that a battalion of men with pitchforks will be beaten in a stand-up fight by a couple of Companies of trained infantry armed merely with rifles. And yet we refuse to be numbered among the Pessimists, for, as we shall afterwards point out in dealing with the Optimists, we know of circumstances which can go a long way towards reducing the enormous odds on fully-trained and fully-armed men who are fighting less fortunate troops. For the present it is sufficient to say that whereas under the ordinary conditions of modern warfare the long-range weapon has a decided advantage over that with a short range, nevertheless, given certain other definite conditions, the two types of weapon can compete on terms approaching equality.

* * *

The Optimists, for their part, fancy that they have been very usefully backed in these columns. They can point to our advocacy of pistols, pikes, and even stones as weapons of warfare, and conclude that we, like themselves, are of opinion that any old thing will do to beat a foreign soldier. Again, we must protest that we are not Optimists. True it is that we said that a revolver is as good as a rifle at thirty yards, and that a well-directed stone may stop a man with a bayonet at ten; but we never said that either was any use at five hundred. Any optimism we possess is due to the fact that we recognise that in Ireland the ranges are generally short. The point of this is too obvious to dwell on. Suffice it to say that this does not support the Pessimists' fear that all the fighting will be done at several thousand yard ranges, or the Optimists' confidence that it will be all hand-to-hand.

* * *

We have thus been thoroughly misunderstood, and the fact that both sides claim our advocacy is a clear proof that we really side with neither. We hope that we have now made our position clear, and that, by showing the inevitable proviso that must accompany every statement on Volunteer military questions, we shall succeed in adjusting the balance between "Pessimism" and "Optimism."

* * *

Meanwhile, there are a few general rules of tactics that apply to Volunteer activities as much as to others. First, your enemy is seldom obliging enough to do what you expect him to do. Second, if the enemy finds you are not going to oblige him by doing what he wants he will try to make you: don't let him. Third, if you decide on a definite line of action, stick to it and don't let minor considerations lead you to abandon what you consider to be the right course. Fourth, if you decide to act on the defensive, don't allow the killing of a few of your scouts to draw you into a general attack. Fifth, certainly use your men as cannon-fodder in war time; that's the way to win. But in peace time regard them as potential soldiers whom you have to train, and treat them as such.

E. O'D.

The Victories of Peace

That every country requires towns as centres for industry and other activities there is no need to argue. The relative scantiness of town life in Ireland is one of the arguments used to splint up the case against allowing Irishmen the rights and liberties of a nation. Let us see at whose door the blame is rightly to be laid.

To supply what can be called town life we may safely take it that no group of dwellings containing together less than a thousand inhabitants may be called a town, and that any smaller group is to be regarded as a village or hamlet and as belonging rather to rural life.

In the second part of the pamphlet, "Daniel O'Connell and Sinn Fein," I have shown the complete mistake of supposing that the catastrophe of the Great Famine seventy years ago was the original or main cause of Ireland's decline in population and prosperity. The Famine was itself a consequence of the government of Ireland by England and for England, and its results were the results of English government; but the Census returns prove that, without the Famine and without the Repeal of the Corn Laws, Ireland would have been depopulated and her industries destroyed by the normal operation of English government. We shall now see that the Union is wholly to blame for the destruction of town life in Ireland. The facts we have to consider are recorded by the officials of the English Government in that Government's official publications.

The impetus given to Irish prosperity during the brief duration of the independent Irish Parliament was not exhausted within the twenty-five or thirty years that followed the suppression of our financial and legislative liberty. The Great Famine did not come until the middle of the fifth decade of the Union. But the depopulation and impoverishment of Ireland under the Union can be seen plainly at work during the fourth decade, accompanied by the introduction of "National Education" and of the English Pauper System. We shall be able to trace the rapid decay of town life in Ireland during that decade, 1831 to 1841, and we shall follow up the process to the year 1901, when the Union had been on trial for a full century. During that century, the reader will bear in mind, the Pax Britannica ruled supreme in Ireland. There was no seige or bombardment of any Irish town. No town in Ireland was stormed or sacked or given to the flames. No new invader landed on our shores. No ancient law was revived, forbidding Irish people to inhabit the towns of their own country. The whole business was transacted according to the strict principles of Law and Order and Civilisation, things of which the Irish people have no proper conception.

In the year 1831, which some people still alive can remember, there were in Ireland 278 towns of over a thousand inhabitants. Ten years later their number was reduced to 266. After a hundred years of the Union the number of such towns was 171. The Union accounted for the other 107—one for every Irish member in the Union Parliament, or one for every year in the century, and a few to spare.

Of these towns reduced to villages, 17 are in prosperous Ulster. Four are in Co. Down—Ardglass, Killough, Hillsborough and Saintfield. Three of these have lost more than half their population in the Irish peace. Four are in Co. Derry—Dungiven, Kilrea, Maghera and Moneymore, all reduced by from a third to a half. Three are in Tyrone—Aughnacloy, Caledon and Stewartstown, with a similar rate of casualties. Three are in Co. Armagh—Hamiltonsbawn, Markethill and Newtownhamilton. Hamiltonsbawn must have come through the very thick of the peace. In 1831 its population was 1,014; in 1841 it was 217; in 1901, there were still 70 left to shout No Surrender. The Kaiser has no terrors for such people. Markethill and Newtownhamilton have lost nearly half their population. Two of the ex-towns are in Co. Cavan—Killeshandra and Kingscourt, each having about half of their former population. Fermanagh had only two towns. Irvinestown, having lost 600 in the peace, has become a village; and old Enniskillen, which also lost 600, is now the only town in the county. Monaghan keeps its five towns—Monaghan, Clones, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney and Ballybay—but all greatly reduced. Antrim, too, had lost no town within the century, but since 1901 my native town, Glenarm, has become a village.

In Leinster 47 towns have gone under. They are widely distributed throughout the province, but the county that made the greatest sacrifices in Ireland's last war has come best through the terrors of the Peace. Wexford has lost only two towns, Newtownbarry and Taghmon. Peace has her victories, and with the exception of Hamilstownbawn, few trophies of war can compare with the town to which some hopeful Angliciser gave the auspicious name of Prosperous. In 1831 Prosperous had 1,038 inhabitants; in 1841, 526; in 1901, 84.

In Munster, 29 towns have become villages. The town of Carrickbeg had 2,704 inhabitants in 1831. In 1901 it was no longer returned among the villages having 500 and upwards. The blessings of the English language, along with the English peace, are boasted in Killenaule, whose 1,786 inhabitants in 1841 were represented in 1901 by 560. In Connacht, thirteen towns have become villages. Among these Eyrecourt has made the most rapid progress towards perfect peace; its population was 1,789 in 1831, and 414 in 1901.

Peace, like War, sometimes disguises her operations. The list of towns that have been would be still larger but for the fact that since 1831 a fair number of towns have been presented, at the cost of the country, with prisons, lunatic asylums and poorhouses, and Peace has provided these palaces of hers with plenty of inmates. There are five general ways of escape from a peace-beleaguered town like Prosperous or Hamiltonsbawn, death, emigration, the prison, the poorhouse and the asylum.

EOIN MAC NEILL

Tá 'na Lá.

Ir fada ar fán ar ndaoine bréag
A tug a n-grád do tír a n-athar
Acht feo tugann lá ó Rís na n-grár
Nuair bainfid fáram ar na gallaib.

Beid 'na lá, beid 'na lá
Beid 'na lá arís go gairid
Beid 'na lá ó beid 'na lá
Ir bainfeam fmúid ar cuirp na namad

Tá Fianna Fáil, ir a gclú go hárd
Ag cnuaracht fear go tiug ir arm
Mar táid ag bhaic go dtiocfaid thát
Nuair fuagfar uainn le faoibar ár namaid.

Beid 'na lá, beid 'na lá
Beid 'na lá arís go gairid
Beid 'na lá, a beid 'na lá
Ir fágfar namaid na n-Gaedeal go dealb

Cugaib anoir a Clan na Gaedeal
Cugaib anoir an gnian ag taitneamh
Sgaipead an Ceóig 'read cím gan gó
Glacaid búr n-gléur ir thiall cun cata.

Tá 'na lá, tá 'na lá,
Tá 'na lá ó Rís na bhfláitear,
Tá 'na lá, ó tá 'na lá,
Ir ruaigtear Clann Séáin Buide tar caluit

Do pread na Gaedil le h-Eirige lae,
'Ga n-gléurad féin go dian cun cata,
Ir chíoc don tséul ro agum féin,
Gur raoruigead Éire ó a namaid.

Ir tá 'na lá, tá 'na lá
Tá bród ir athar ar gach pearra
Mar tá ár mátair raor ó'n m-bár
Ir rinne raor ó fmacht fé gallaib.

S. O. M.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comhairle Ghnóthaí Féinne Fáil ina n-Dúnphort tráthnóna D. Céadaoin an 12 ad lá de'n mhí seo, agus an Ceann Cathá Pádraic Mac Piarais ina chathaoirleach orthá.

Do fríoth deagh-chúnntais ar ghluaiseacht na hoibre i gConntaethibh Cille Dara, Corcaighe, Ciarraighe, Luimnigh, an Chláir, na Gaillimhe, agus an Chábáin.

A dubhradh go rabhthar chum Dhoro Conntae do chur ar bun i gConntae an Chláir.

Do rothruigeadh a lán ceisteann do bhain le harmáil na Féinne.

Dúnphort na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 12 Ean., 1916

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, the 12th inst., Commandant P. H. Pearse in the chair.

Satisfactory reports of the progress of organisation and training were received from Counties Kildare, Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Clare, Galway, and Cavan. It was reported that steps were being taken for the formation of a Co. Board for Clare.

Decisions were come to with regard to a number of matters connected with armament.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson St.,
Dublin, 12th Jan., 1916.

Notes from Headquarters

GENERAL COUNCIL.

The General Council of Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Sunday last, 16th January, Eoin MacNeill presiding. There was a large attendance of members from all over Ireland and a considerable amount of business regarding the training and equipment of the Irish Volunteers was transacted.

The following statement was adopted unanimously and issued for publication:

> "The British Government, having failed in the policy of deporting Irish Volunteers, is now pursuing a policy of arresting men and detaining them without trial and in some cases without charge. This action is an infringement of the elementary rights of Irishmen to which Irish Volunteers will not submit."

CASUALTIES.

The enemy has released Alfred Monaghan, who will immediately resume his work as a member of the Organising Staff. Almost simultaneously with this release the enemy has seized Captain Terence McSwiney, the devoted and brilliant organiser of Co. Cork. He has also seized Thomas Kent, of Castlelyons, the soul of the local Volunteer Company. the wobbly tactics of the enemy would seem to indicate a certain amount of panic on his part. Our business is to go on with our organisation, training, and arming, and to perfect our mobilisation schemes.

MOBILISATION.

Mobilisation is a real weakness with us. Yet it should present little difficulty. Some careful thought, with the map of his district and notes as to the addresses of his men before him, should enable any Battalion or Company Commander to perfect a little scheme for his unit. Then test it, and see where it fails. Repair the faulty parts, and test it again. Keep it in working order by making use of it from time to time, but do not try it so often as to make it a bugbear to your men. Be reasonable in your demands on all your subordinates, remembering that they have businesses to look after and also that they require a little leisure. Our Volunteer tests must not be too severe. Just severe enough to keep the officers and men up to a reasonable standard, just frequent enough to keep them alert and active. But tests there must be. And an occasional mobilisation test is of the utmost importance. Every Commander must be satisfied that he is in a position to call out every man in his unit, with full arms, ammunition, and equipment, in the minimum time.

A RESERVE.

All those who for one reason or another are unable to drill with the Irish Volunteers should enrol themselves in the Auxiliary. Single enrolment forms and enrolment sheets for use by organisers of the Auxiliary, with spaces for ten names, can be had from Headquarters. The Auxiliary can be looked upon as our third line. We are anxious for the creation of a second line, a body of able-bodied reserves who, while not drilling openly with the Volunteers, will undertake to acquire a certain amount of military training and will be ready for service in a crisis. We commend the creation of such a body to the attention of all Company and Battalion Commanders.

MORE TARGET PRACTICE!

Again we return to the importance of more and more target practice. So important is it that nearly every other branch of training sinks into significance beside it. Let there be a weekly target practice in every hall. Let opportunities for open-air practice be availed of as often as possible. Spare the service ammunition. Good practice can be got with miniature ammunition and even with air-guns. "Snapping" without any ammunition at all is also of the greatest

benefit. Practice sighting in your own house. Take a sight and "snap," holding the sights on the target for a few seconds after "snapping." Company Commanders should see that every man in their command is training himself to shoot, and Battalion and higher officers should see that the Company Officers are doing their duty in this vital matter.

Improved Field Work at Santry.

On Sunday, January 9th, the 2nd Batt. Dublin Brigade had a very instructive field-day near Santry. A considerable advance in the training of the men and the work of the Company Officers was observable. The country was much broken up by enclosures and hedges, and all ranks exhibited some idea of how to turn such country to account. Between one-third and one-fourth of the strength of the battalion was told off to defend a strong post on the road about a quarter of a mile to the south of the village, the attack being assigned to the remainder.

The defenders expected the attack along the main road from Dublin, but only a feint attack by one section was delivered there. The main attacking force marched up the Malahide Road, and then wheeling to the left, attacked from the general direction of Artane. It is worth noting that the fact of being attacked from an unexpected direction did not cause the disorganisation of the defender. His outpost service was well enough performed to enable him **to form a front against the attacker in time.** The likeliest route for the attacker was organised for delaying action, possible but less likely routes were watched by small, well-posted parties, one route was regarded as negligible. On the whole a very accurate calculation of his own means and the attacker's was made.

The attacker's design was good: in addition to surprise he gained an advantage by moving over the best ground. The forced march to gain his adversary's flank was well carried out, and the different attacking columns were handled so as to get the best value out of such covered lines of approach as existed. The feint attack, however, did not impose on the defender: it would have been better to have pressed it briskly, so as to attract as many of the enemy as possible to that front and thus weaken opposition to the real attack. In the course of the action the different detachments became mixed up very much—an inevitable thing—and when the umpires called it off it had not been fought to a decision. At that time the attackers had made considerable headway.

The men on both sides showed an improved idea of the necessity and manner of taking cover. The defender's outposts were very well concealed for the most part. But both sides still displayed lack of caution in **keeping under cover when moving,** whether to carry information or to fight. The defender's outposts gave frequent information and, with one ludicrous exception, it was accurate. The different attacking columns were in fairly good touch, and that **without using up too many men.**

The N.C.O.'s as a whole displayed a higher standard of training and a better idea of the use of ground. Especially they had their small units much better under control. Evidently the systematic training of the Dublin N.C.O.'s is beginning to bear fruit, and it is only reasonable to look for still further improvement in this respect.

The number of cyclists who turned out was small. The only use that arose for them was on outpost and as despatch carriers. These duties were performed with intelligence and speed. The umpires were some officers of the 1st and 2nd Battalions. The practice of officers umpiring is good training for them, and the bringing in of officers from other Battalions in such cases tends to spread agreement on tactical methods, besides bringing about an esprit-de-corps among the officers in general.

Recruiting

Some Volunteers resident in Dublin have recently supplied the Director of Recruiting with the names and addresses of sympathisers in provincial districts where there is a likelihood of corps of Irish Volunteers being formed. The Director of Recruiting would, however, like far more information of this kind, and he requests the assistance of all Volunteers in Dublin possessing it. Remote country districts are placed at a disadvantage as compared with Dublin, the centre of so much National endeavour, and this is not always sufficiently recognised. Dublin Volunteers should, therefore, set themselves to help the movement in the provinces in every possible way. Sympathisers should be sent propagandist literature, such as the IRISH VOLUNTEER; Headquarters should be supplied with details in regard to such districts, and Volunteers themselves going from Dublin on holidays should constitute themselves apostles, rousing the more apathetic, spreading a knowledge of military organisation, and drilling recruits wherever they can get a few together. Even a short lesson on firearms to a few friends will be of benefit. Those who have acquired military training in the big centres of population should not keep that knowledge to themselves. They should burn with a desire to impart it to as many others as they can.

Strategic Points of the Irish Counties.

XXIII. MONAGHAN—CLONES.

Clones is a centre through which many important routes pass: it is, in fact, the junction point of all the lines from the midlands of Ireland into Ulster. Into Clones two lines of railway run from the southward: from Cavan to Belfast by Armagh, and from Dundalk by Enniskillen to Bundoran. The first of these lines is paralleled by an excellent road: the second is also accompanied by a road, though less good.

Clones is also the last town of importance on the Ulster Canal before it reaches Lough Erne. This canal, however, does not admit barges of the same size as the Lagan Canal at present. Still it would prove a very valuable secondary communication.

XXIV. QUEEN'S—MARYBORO'.

Maryboro' is situated at the junction of the two most important lines of the Great Southern and Western Railway—the main Dublin-Cork line and the branch line by Abbeyleix down the Nore valley to Kilkenny and Waterford. There is also a short branch to Mountmellick, only half-a-dozen miles long.

By road Maryboro' is connected with Portarlington, Mountmellick, Mountrath and Abbeyleix, in short, all the towns of importance in the country of which it is, indeed, almost the exact central point. There is also a good road by Stradbally and Athy to Grange Con and the western borders of County Wicklow.

XXV. ROSCOMMON—ATHLONE.

Although Athlone is as much in Co. Westmeath as in Roscommon, still it is so much more important than any other point in Roscommon that it is probably best placed there. In all the Irish wars Athlone has been a place of absolutely vital importance, and the number of assaults and sieges it has experienced is almost beyond counting. And at the present day also it retains this importance unabated: it is the inland key of the Shannon line as Limerick is the maritime. Situate on the direct line from Galway to Dublin, it is about half-way between by railway and road. There is also a railway line by Roscommon, Castlereagh and Ballyhaunis to Claremorris, and numerous roads branch off all over South Connaught. As the Shannon is here about 100 yards wide the two bridges, railway and road, are of the highest importance: and the place has also such an abundance of river craft that a considerable force could be passed over the river in this way. On the northern flank Athlone is completely protected by Lough Ree, and most of the surrounding country is low-lying and often flooded. Besides the old castle there are other more modern works designed for the defence of the place, and altogether possession of Athlone would render most of the country west of the Shannon untenable by an enemy. In

technical phrase, the old works on the Roscommon bank form what is known as a "bridge-head" for an army operating from the Leinster side of the river.

XXVI. SLIGO—COLLOONEY.

In 1798 Collooney was worth a battle; to-day it is still more important, and the establishment of a transatlantic harbour at Blacksod and a railway between the Slieve Gamph Mountains and the sea would render it one of the most important military points in Ireland. It is situate about half-a-dozen miles from Sligo on the Dublin railway, and there is also a line to Claremorris and the South and another through the Leitrim mountains to Enniskillen—the only line from Connaught to Ulster. There are roads along all these lines, and others to Ballina, Boyle and Leitrim: while there are numerous small bridges, the demolition of which would sever all these communications. The road to Sligo and that to the North run through narrow passes near Collooney, and are thus capable of being effectively blocked. The neighbourhood is part mountain and part woodland.

XXVII. TIPPERARY—CLONMEL.

Clonmel is a very important strategic point for several reasons. It is a railway centre—being the most important town on the Limerick-Waterford line, and having a branch line by Fethard to Thurles on the main Dublin-Cork line of the Great Southern. These lines are paralleled by good roads, and in other respects also Clonmel is an important road junction. North-west a road runs to Cashel and southward is another, branching to Youghal and Dungarvan. But by far the most important road is the main Cork-Dublin road by Fermoy-Clonmel-Kilkenny-Naas, which crosses the Suir at Clonmel and again at Knocklofty, four miles above the town. Clonmel also dominates the passages of the Suir at Caher and Ardfinan on the upper river and at Carrick on the lower. In the town itself there are two bridges.

XXVIII. TYRONE—OMAGH.

Omagh, situated at the junction point of three valleys in a mountainous country, is naturally a place of great military importance. The three valleys are: first, that of the Strule, leading towards Strabane and Derry; second, that to Enniskillen; third, that towards the mountains of Pomeroy and thence to Dungannon. A railway follows each of these routes and each railway line crosses some stream or river within close reach of Omagh. The same remark applies to lines of road that more or less follow the rail routes. There are also several other roads: one to Pettigo and South Donegal; one due east to Cookstown; and three striking south or south-east over the mountains to Clones, Monaghan and Aughnacloy.

XXIX. WATERFORD—WATERFORD.

Waterford is a town of considerable size, an important port, and the centre of a very considerable trade. It is situated a fairly considerable distance from the sea, and the Suir, about seven miles below the city, makes a sharp bend to the south. Several important lines of railway converge at Waterford: along the north bank of the Suir from Limerick, from Cork by Mallow, Fermoy, Lismore and Dungarvan, from Wexford and Rosslare, from Dublin by New Ross and Bagenalstown. There is also a short line to Tramore. There are roads up both banks of the Suir and one down along the south bank to Passage. There are numerous other roads of which the most important is that up the right bank of the Barrow to New Ross.

XXX. WESTMEATH—MULLINGAR.

Mullingar, midway on the neck of land dividing Lough Owel from Lough Ennell, very largely resembles Enniskillen in its character as a military position, but its actual importance is much greater than that of Enniskillen, because the routes it dominates are much more important. The railway lines from Connacht all unite at Mullingar: that with Sligo at its terminus, and that to Galway. The branch line to Cavan and the north strikes into the first at Inny Junction ten miles away, and the branch line to the south meets the Galway line at Streamstown twelve miles out. The Dublin line is paralleled by the canal for its entire length, and the canal is continued to the Shannon at Cloondara. The neck of land between the lakes is only about three miles wide, so that many roads from the west converge on Mullingar and the main Galway-Athlone-Dublin road—flanked by the place on the north at a distance of half a dozen miles—passing as it does by Tyrrellspass and Rochfort Bridge.

XXXI. WEXFORD—NEW ROSS.

Wexford is a peculiarly-situated county, being practically isolated from the rest of Ireland. On the north is the mass of the Wicklow Mountains, and this system throws out a branch range to the south-west, consisting of Mount Leinster and the Blackstairs range. Near the southern end of this chain lies New Ross and over the range there are only two routes, by Newtown Barry and Suillogue Gap. At New Ross there is the last bridge over the Barrow—except the Campile Railway bridge—before it joins the Suir, and ships of fair size can come right up to the town. A little above the town is the railway bridge of the Dublin and South-Eastern line to Waterford. New Ross thus commands the only important passages out of the county.

XXXII. WICKLOW—NEWTOWNMOUNTKENNEDY.

Newtownmountkennedy is a point of military importance for a very special reason: it is the most suitable point from which to protect the Dublin Waterworks at Roundwood against a raid by a party landed on the coast. Such a landing could only take place between Bray Head and Wicklow; and a force moving inland on Roundwood from any point in between could be anticipated from Newtownmountkennedy. The roads inland from the coast are few and could easily be watched in time to allow of the centrally-placed force to move in time. Newtown is served by plenty of roads, some of which are excellent.

Strategic Importance of Ireland

The above is the title of an article in the "Irish Times" of Sunday, January 16th, giving a review of a lecture by Dr. Vaughan Cornish on "The Strategic Geography of the War in Relation to the British Empire." The subject is not as important as the tactical handling of a section, or even as forming fours turned about but it is interesting none the less. The lecture displays a careful study of the writings of Admiral Mahan, in whose pages the military, or rather naval, importance of Ireland is most convincingly set forth.

Ireland is the most westerly country in Europe, being a kind of outwork thrust out towards America, flanking all the transatlantic routes at a longer or shorter distance. From Cork to Ushant in France is about 250 sea miles, and through this narrow gap—ten hours steaming for a cruiser—all the sea-borne commerce of Northern Europe passed in times of peace. And this means not only vessels to America but to Asia as well.

So much for the importance of Ireland in position. That importance is increased by the nature of the harbours on the west coast of Ireland from Lough Swilly to Bantry Bay. Dr. Vaughan Cornish thus emphasizes this point: "The south, west, and north coasts of Ireland are indented by long, sheltered, deep-water inlets which afford magnificent shelter for fleets, though their advantage as harbours is apt to be forgotten by civilians owing to the circumstance that most of them are distant from any manufacturing or trading centre, and have, therefore, no commercial use. The strategic importance of Ireland is not realised by the average citizen because its foreign relations have long been merged in those of the neighbouring island."

Ireland was often a theatre of military operations between England and continental powers—France and Spain. In all these wars England had an advantage owing to her nearness to the scene of operations. The Irish Sea is only 150 miles wide at its widest point—between Dundalk and Liverpool. The North Channel at one end is only about a dozen miles wide, and the southern inlet, the St. George's Channel, about 50. Hence, as Admiral Mahan points out, the Irish Sea was more an estuary than anything else—it was nothing like such a breach in the communications as the expanse between Cork and Brest or Corunna. As a matter of fact, it was so narrow that in

leabhar drille dóghlácaidh na héireann

(An Leanmhaint).

Sa rang deirid, cuirfid gach uimhir corr a ghunna ina luidhe i gcoinnibh an cairn or a chomhair agus leighfidh ré a dá láimh ríor lena dá chaobh.

Tairtighidh—Gunnaí. A Ceathair

Druidid—riar. Raghaidh gach rang coircéim an gcúl agus iompóchaidh i dtreo cliathán deir an rangha

Glacadh Gunnaí.

Druidid—irtheach. Iompóchaidh gach duine ra dá rang irtheach ⁊ raghaidh ré coircéim an aghaidh.

Glacaidh—Gunnaí. A hAon. Beurfaidh gach aoinne greim an a ghunna ag an mbanna.

Scaoilfear na croca ar a chéile tré bara na ngunnaí d'ardach, ⁊ do chlaonadh irtheachí ⁊ cuirfear na gunna an an ndul an a mbíd tarréir "Irlighte."

Glacaidh—Gunnaí. A Dó.

Sa rang toraigh, ardóchaidh fear an chliathán clé an lámh a beird folamh. Nuair a cífidh ré gach aoinne beith ullamh ardóchaidh ré a lámh agus carfaidh gach aoinne ra rang thoraigh timcheall agus raghaidh an rang deirid coircéim an gcúl.

Glacaidh—Gunnaí. A Trí.

Le linn na n-arm do ghlacadh tabharfar an t-órdughadh "Scaraidh" tarréir an órdaighte "druidigh—riar." Nuair a "baileochar" arís raghaidh gach aoinne ran ionad ran dírreach ina roimh ré roim "rcaradh" dó.

Cum "umlaighte" agus an gunna "ardaighte."

Leaghtar an lámh dear ar chaol baire an ghunna, i dtreo go mbeidh an lámh, ón uillinn ríor, trearna an chléibh dírreach, agus drom na láimhe iompaighte amach ⁊ na méirreanna rínte amach lena chéile.

Strategic Importance of Ireland.

those days of sailing ships no French or Spanish Admiral ever ventured his fleet into it. Nor would any good sailor in these days of steamers go in either, unless he were much superior in the strength of his fleet. Indeed, we have seen that all the Germans attempted was occasional raiding by submarines, just as the French and Americans only attempted raiding by frigates in the older wars.

Dr. Vaughan Cornish in his lecture made out a powerful case for a ship canal across Scotland between the Firth of Clyde and the Firth of Forth, thus bringing the eastern and western British ports in touch. It may be remembered how some years ago the question of a transatlantic harbour at Blacksod Bay was discussed at great length. The aim was to have a train ferry across the North Channel and improve railway communications, with a view to completing a through route across the Atlantic quite free from chances of hostile raiders.

NA FIANNA EIREANN

MAP READING.

It is important that every scout should be trained so as to read a military map quickly and accurately. Maps are of great importance in military operations not only to scouts but to leaders of every rank from the Field-Marshal down to the dispatch-rider. A military map reveals a mass of ready-made information without which the scout would be compelled to spend much valuable time in ascertaining for himself. The scout who is practised in map-reading is able to read a map not merely as a representation of the roads from town to town, but he can visualise the country represented by the map, noting the roads, hills, rivers, villages, and the nature of the country as a whole. The map will show him not only the shortest route from one place to another, but also the route by which he may best conceal his movements.

• • •

Scales.

To read a map correctly you must first find out the scale to which it is drawn. By the term "scale" is meant the proportion that the distance between two points on the map bears to the distance between the same points on the country it represents. For instance, if the scale of your map is "two inches to a mile," it means that a road ten inches long on the map is five miles long in reality. The scale of a map may be shown in three ways:—(a) By a statement in words, such as "six inches to a mile." (b) By a representative fraction, thus: R.F. $\frac{1}{63360}$, which means that one unit on the map represents 63,360 units on the ground. On all our maps the unit taken is the inch; therefore R.F. $\frac{1}{63360}$ means that the scale is one inch to a mile (63,360 inches). If the scale was "six inches to a mile" the representative fraction would be marked on the map: R.F. $\frac{1}{10560}$ (c) By a scale line divided into parts, each representing a certain number of units.

In ordnance survey maps and military sketches the scale is usually shown in all three ways.

• • •

Definitions.

It would be well if you would memorise the following definitions before we proceed further:—

Basin.—(a) A small area of level ground surrounded by hills; (b) a district drained by a river and its tributaries.

A Col or Saddle.—A depression between two adjacent hills or mountains.

Crest.—The edge of the top of a hill or mountain.

Knoll.—A low detached hill.

Nullah.—The dried up bed of a river.

Plateau.—An elevated plain—a flat surface on top of a hill.

Ravine.—A narrow valley with steep sides.

Spur or Salient.—A projection from the side of a hill or mountain, running out and down from the main feature.

Undulating Ground.—Ground consisting of alternate gentle elevations and depressions.

Watercourse.—The line defining the lowest part of the valley, whether occupied by a stream or not.

Watershed.—A ridge of high land separating two drainage basins, the summit of land from which water divides and flows in two directions.

Bearing.—True bearing is the angle a line makes with the true north line.

Magnetic Bearing. — The magnetic bearing is the angle a line makes with the magnetic north line.

Contour.—A contour is an imaginary line running along the surface of the ground at the same height all the way round. Each contour represents a fixed rise or fall of so many **feet** from those next to it. This fixed rise or fall is termed the **Vertical Interval** (V.I.).

Form Lines.—Form lines are approximate contours sketched in by eye work.

Gradient.—A gradient is a slope expressed as a fraction: thus a gradient of $\frac{1}{30}$ indicates a rise or fall of 1 ft. in every horizontal distance of 30 ft.

Meridian.—A meridian is a true north and south line.

Magnetic Meridian.—A magnetic meridian is a magnetic north and south line.

Plotting is the process of laying down on paper field observations and measurements.

Setting a Map is the process of placing the map so that the north line points north.

• • •

The Compass.

The dial of the magnetic compass is divided into 360 equal divisions called degrees, and 32 equal divisions called points of the compass. There are four cardinal points of the compass—namely, north (N.), east (E.), south (S.), and west (W.); and four intermediate points—namely, north-east (N.E.), south-east (S.E.), south-west (S.W.), and north-west (N.W.).

PADRAIC O RIAIN.

[These Notes on Map Reading will be continued in next week's issue.]

FIRST AID CLASSES

For Members of Cumann na mBan, Thursday afternoon 4 to 5.30, beginning October 29th. Those wishing to attend should apply by letter to Hon. Secs., Cumann na mBan Executive, 2 Dawson Street.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

THE

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 60 (New Series). SATURDAY, JANUARY 29th, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

As I anticipated, it has turned out that the "riot" near Carrickmore, Co. Tyrone, was a bit of mischief organised under the auspices of Dublin Castle, which sent a force of forty police, fully armed, to see its programme through. The accounts of the affair published in the daily papers were, like the "riot" itself, an elaborate concoction. The hesitating instruments of the plot made a slight disturbance at the singing of "A Nation once again." A window was broken, there was a trifling scuffle, and some ladies became alarmed. All was over before the part arranged for the small army of police could be brought off. The conduct of the police was publicly condemned by Father Short, C.C., speaking at Mass on the following Sunday. It is part of Mr. Birrell's "delicate and difficult" programme to get Irishmen to murder each other in the interest of "a real Empire patriotism." If that sort of thing succeeded, Mr. Birrell would be the murderer. It is not likely to succeed, for the Irish Volunteers in Tyrone and elsewhere are not a faction. Those of the police who are imitating Crossmaglen methods should remember the fate of Gartland, who was struck down instantaneously by the hand of God in the street in open daylight and went without a moment's warning before a tribunal where perjury and all the other tricks of Dublin Castle are of no avail.

* * *

I have just received the first number of "The Irishman," a new monthly, price one penny, edited by A. Newman (Dublin office: 17 Upper Ormond Quay). The editor is well known to readers of the IRISH VOLUNTEER, and the new periodical bears the distinct impress of his vigorous personality. I wish "The Irishman" a successful and useful career.

* * *

I have to acknowledge on behalf of the Irish Volunteers the receipt of £40 from an Irishwoman; £318 from the Ancient Order of Hibernians in the United States of America, sent by the principal officers of the Order; and £18 18s., balance of the original fund collected for the Irish Volunteers by the editor of the "Irish World," New York. The British Government honours the United States by maintaining there a well-organised system of secret intelligence. Any statements that have been made to the effect that the body of Irish-American opinion, or any considerable part of it, not to say "ninety-five per cent.," is in favour of Mr. T. P. O'Connor's Sharp Curve policy, cannot deceive the British Government. We can therefore form our own conclusions as to who these statements are intended to persuade, and the amount of respect they earn for those who make them from the members of the British Government, which, from such and similar performances, will be able to estimate the moral strength of certain forces in exacting the fulfilment of a treaty which has been signed by King George and enrolled in the Statute Book of the Imperial Parliament. The British Government will also be able to judge how much nearer its Irish policy has brought it to the desired consummation of an "Anglo-American Alliance."

* * *

There were still quite lately in Ireland a set of people who could believe or pretend to believe that Ireland is a poor country that could not pay her own way without the help of England; and unfortunately there were many people who did not even know enough to laugh at that sort of nonsense. Worse still, men who claim to be followed blindly as political guides and think that patriotism consists in passing votes of confidence, such men, to their own discomfiture, have contented themselves with political machine work and have neglected to fortify their position by instructing the public on vital matters of the national economy. Having neglected this themselves, they have been quick to resent and denounce any effort to bring free discussion to bear on the question of national finance. If in the whole Irish parliamentary representation there is a single man except Mr. Ginnell who has any sense of the effect of present and proposed taxation on Irish prosperity, the knowledge is kept wonderfully dark. It is thought good enough for the common sort of Irishman to feed them up with phrases about a constitution "better than Grattan's"—when we get it!

We are expected to play a game of political blind man's buff, a game in which the whole public is to wear a bag over its head and try to find its way out of the Union poorhouse by listening to the voices of two or three "leaders." Thanks to Mr. Ginnell, the bag is off, and the Irish public now knows that it is subjected to fresh and additional taxes, amounting to nearly forty shillings from every man, woman and child, and that this has been done without a word from the "leaders" about it. Why should the "leaders" trouble themselves telling you and me and the like of us about the taxes we are to pay? You may trust Mr. Redmond, and he will trust the British Democracy, and it will be all right. Your business is to vote at conventions and elections as you are told, and to vote votes of confidence at all times, and to pay up your taxes and look pleasant.

* * *

The "leaders" would not venture to take up this attitude of silence, servile and obsequious silence, on the subject of this intolerable and ruinous burden of fresh taxation, if they did not count on the ignorance of the Irish public and the lack of public spirit among those who, in every locality throughout Ireland, ought to be foremost in asserting the rights and defending the interests of the people.

* * *

From 1756 to 1763 England was at war with France, fighting, as she is fighting now, for empire. Four years later, in 1767, the English Ministry decided to impose an Imperial taxation on the English colonies in America. The colonists had helped England to fight France in the recent war, and George Washington had fought with distinction on the English side. It was suggested that England, instead of taxing the American colonies, should save expense by withdrawing her army from them. "I will hear nothing on the subject," said the English Chancellor of the Exchequer; "it is absolutely necessary to keep an army there." The colonists, who were recently so loyal, now began to boycott English imports. They had the same sort of governors then in America as we have now. One of these royal governors wrote to the Ministry: "Send over an army and a fleet and reduce the dogs to reason." The colonists stiffened up. The English Government

did likewise. In 1772 the men of Boston threw the tea that was taxed by England into Boston Harbour. In 1774 the colonists appointed a Congress, which claimed for them, as British subjects, a share in the power of legislation and taxation over themselves, and protested against a British army being kept in the country to rule them. The people then formed Volunteer forces and armed themselves. "Every village and district had its company of **minute-men**—men pledged to each other to be ready for action at a minute's warning." Before that year was out the Colonists, who had helped England against France a few years before, were at open war with England. In 1776 the American Congress formed an alliance with France against England, and after five years of war, the United States, with the help of France, achieved final and complete independence of England.

* * *

All the world now says that the Americans did well and rightly, but at the time there were plenty of Birrells and, among the Americans themselves, plenty of "Loyalists" to lecture them about loyalty and the Wider Patriotism, and their place in the British Empire, and the dangers from France. There was not one thing against which the Americans protested and revolted that is not now imposed on us in a far greater degree by the English Government. The taxes they were required to pay to support the Empire in its wars were trifling in comparison with the taxes now demanded from us. They were only half-grown colonies with a small and scattered population, not an ancient nation. They had always been subject to English legislation, they had never suffered the loss of legislative and financial independence. The rights which they established by revolts were rights they had never before enjoyed, not rights that had been filched from them by perfidy and violence. If it is right to impoverish and depopulate this nation by Imperial war taxes, surely the English Government had a much better right to impose a moderate taxation on colonists who a few years before had been aided by the English Government to resist the French upon their borders. Every public representative who consents to Ireland's treatment in a way that those English colonies refused to bear is false to his trust.

* * *

Last week I attended a meeting in the Dublin Mansion House to protest against the Government for taking from us a sum of money which is just about the thousandth part of the new war taxes that are to be taken from us. On the following day the Committee of the Catholic Bishops also protested. Were it not that a principle of administration was involved, as well as the principle of taxation, these protests would appear to be the height of folly—crying out about the disposal of £8,000 a year and allowing £8,000,000 a year to be taken without protest. And now I am informed that Mr. Dillon and Mr. Redmond have made "a satisfactory settlement" with the Treasury about the £8,000! What about the £8,000,000? We may expect an early pronouncement in the "Freeman's Journal" about the £8,000. What about the £8,000,000? Is the public entitled to any statement from its elected representatives about this £8,000,000 of additional taxation? Will they condescend to give the miserable commonalty of Ireland their exalted opinion about how this unprecendented taxation is likely to affect our future prosperity?

* * *

Their friend the Chief Secretary for England in Ireland has claimed their assent to his delicate and difficult operation of watering and watering Irish Nationality to death without tearing it up by the roots. The Irish police are under Mr. Birrell's control. The week before last he had them at work in Tyrone, in the interests of the Home Rule Act, superintending an abortive attempt to set Irishmen at each other's throats. Last week, the delicate and difficult operation took the form of police raids, under Mr. Birrell's management, for the purpose of disarming Irish Nationalists. Mr. Dillon has publicly pledged himself against the disarmament of Nationalists, and his pledge was recorded by me in this paper at the time. Is Mr. Dillon now an acquiescent party to Mr. Birrell's disarmament campaign? There are, at all events, other pledges against disarmament, and they will be kept. If any attempt is made to force us back again into the house of bondage, those who make the attempt will be responsible for the consequences. That our liberty should be dependent on the good will of others—that, as Grattan said, is the definition of tyranny. Perhaps Mr. Birrell is experimenting. If so, it is a criminal sort of experiment.

* * *

Maunsel & Co., Dublin, have published two new books by Darrell Figgis. One is in prose. It is a book on "Æ (George W. Russell)" in the series of "Irishmen of To-day." The other is a collection of poems and a drama under the title of "The Mount of Transfiguration." Darrell Figgis can say what he means to say in verse or prose. Being a confirmed anti-critic, I should not like at any time to pronounce judgment for the public guidance on the value of an artist's work, and at this particular time I dislike that office more than ever.

* * *

Now that the days are lengthening, it would be well for Volunteer officers all over the country to pay special attention to their own training in the work of officers. The Companies also should interest themselves in a practical way in facilitating the training of their officers, and the numerous friends of the Volunteers could not show their friendship in any better way than by co-operating in providing whatever facilities are needed to enable officers to become capable and proficient. If we are to be ready, like the American Minute-men, at a moment's notice, that means that our officers must know their whole business and know it thoroughly. This requires many things to be well learned and well practised. The training of a Volunteer officer is an educative process of the highest value not only to the man himself but to the whole community. It comprises the awakening and perfecting of every faculty, of intelligence, observation, memory, mental alertness and readiness, clear expression and communication of ideas, resourcefulness, decision, precaution—just the sort of development that is not provided for and is often hindered and hampered by official systems of education. A certain proportion of our officers have made admirable progress, but the best of them know that they have still more progress to make, and the rest must be aware that they have a lot to learn and to master. Many are as yet only at the beginning. A man in any occupation will be a far better man in that occupation if he gets the training required for an officer of Volunteers. With the same sense of duty and discipline, he will be something different from and superior to the machine-made militarist. When the standard reached already in a number of centres becomes general, there will be a new life in Ireland.

EOIN MAC NEILL

3rd FEBRUARY.

Card players who are complaining that there are so few Whist Drives this winter should not miss the Drive which the Cumann na mBan Executive have arranged for Thursday, February 3rd, in the D.B.C., O'Connell Street, at 7.30.

A number of valuable and charming prizes have been presented. Amongst these are a drawing by Mr. Jack Yeates, presented by the artist; a black and white portrait of prizewinner by Sadhbh Trirseach; a pair of old Spanish ear-rings, gold and cornelian, presented by Maire ní Buitleir; a silver-backed brush and comb, and a travelling rug and several other prizes. Keen competition is expected for their possession.

Tickets may be had at 2 Dawson St., 2s. 6d. each.

NEW STORIES BY P. H. PEARSE.

Mr. Wm. Tempest, of the Dundalgan Press, Dundalk, has just published a new book of short stories in Irish by P. H. Pearse. They are described as "Studies of Iar-Connacht Interiors," and include all the short stories written by Mr. Pearse since the publication of his "Iosagán" in 1907. The new volume, which takes its title of "An Mháthair" from the opening story, is published at a shilling nett; postage twopence.

na fianna éireann—an árd sluaġ

DUBLIN BATTALION.

Result of Howth Baton Drawing:—Winning number, **5**. Prize will be forwarded immediately.

The Victories of Peace

II.

While over a hundred Irish towns were reduced to villages by the English peace within a century after the Union, it is right to say that during the same century eighteen towns grew out of villages. The chief of these is the Pembroke Township, which is a partly urban and party suburban district of the city of Dublin, and has a population of 30,000. In 1831 the population was about 10,000. The increase represents overflow from Dublin. The same cause accounts for the growth of Terenure, Dalkey and Howth from villages to towns. The only other village in Leinster that has become a town since the Union is Newbridge, whose growth, quadrupled since 1831, is one of the paradoxes of the Peace, being due to the proximity of the Curragh Camp. In all Munster only one village has become a town since 1831. Here again Peace is put to the blush, for what the British Army has done for Newbridge, the British Navy has done for Castletownberehaven. In all Connacht, too, one village has become a town, namely, Ballyhaunis. In Ulster ten villages have become towns. Four of these owe their increase to the industrial and residential expansion of Belfast: they are Ballyclare, Dunmurry, Whiteabbey and Whitehouse. Glenarm rose to a population of 1,300 some thirty years ago, but has once more succumbed to the Peace, which has in that time exterminated 350 of the inhabitants. Portrush has thriven on sand and salt water. Bessbrook, which has also risen to the rank of town, long boasted its exemption from the guardians of the Peace. Ballinahinch, before the Union, was the most rebellious bit of Ireland outside of Co. Wexford, and has increased its population by 600. Moville, in Co. Donegal, owes its growth to its having become a gateway through which myriads of Ulster people have made good their escape from Peace and Prosperity.

After thirty years of the Union, the following Irish towns had a declining population:—

	Population in		
	1831.	1841.	1901.
IN ULSTER—			
Antrim ...	2,655	2,393	1,826
Ardglass ...	1,162	1,066	501
Aughnacloy ...	1,742	1,841	974
Bailieborough ...	1,085	1,203	1,004
Ballybay ...	1,947	1,768	1,208
Ballycastle ...	1,683	1,697	1,431
Ballyjamesduff ...	863	1,071	650
Ballyshannon ...	3,775	4,307	2,359
Belturbet ...	2,026	2,070	1,587
Buncrana ...	1,059	961	1,316
Caledon ...	1,079	1,046	614
Carrickmacross ...	2,979	1,997	1,874
Castleblayney ...	1,828	2,134	1,576
Cavan ...	2,931	3,749	2,822
Clones ...	2,381	2,877	2,068
Cootehill ...	2,239	2,425	1,509
Donaghadee ...	2,986	3,151	2,073
Donegal ...	830	1,366	1,214
Downpatrick ...	4,784	4,651	2,993
Dungannon ...	3,515	3,801	3,694
Dungiven ...	1,163	1,016	638
Enniskillen ...	6,056	5,686	5,412
Fintona ...	1,714	1,327	1,107
Hamiltonsbawn ...	1,014	217	70
Hillsborough ...	1,453	1,338	617
Irvinestown ...	1,047	1,388	789
Killeshandra ...	1,137	1,085	559
Killough ...	1,162	1,148	499
Kilrea ...	1,215	1,191	787
Kingscourt ...	1,616	1,614	842
Maghera ...	1,154	1,123	879
Magherafelt ...	1,436	1,560	1,328
Markethill ...	1,043	1,424	750
Monaghan ...	3,848	4,130	2,932
Moneymore ...	1,025	942	515
Newry ...	13,065	11,972	12,884
Newtownhamilton	1,020	1,231	687
Newtownlimavady	2,428	3,101	2,692
Newtownstewart ...	1,737	1,405	1,062
Portaferry ...	2,203	2,107	1,514
Rathfriland ...	2,001	2,183	1,294
Saintfield ...	1,053	909	554
Ramelton ...	1,783	1,428	1,162
Stewartstown ...	1,010	1,082	669
Tanderagee ...	1,559	1,562	1,427
Warrenpoint ...	1,856	1,540	1,817
IN LEINSTER—			
Ardee ...	3,975	3,679	1,883
Athboy ...	1,959	1,826	610
Athlone ...	10,972	6,393	6,617
Athy ...	4,494	4,698	3,599
Bagenalstown ...	1,315	2,225	1,882
Balbriggan ...	3,016	2,959	2,236
Baldoyle ...	1,009	835	586
Ballinakill ...	1,927	1,540	441
Ballymahon ...	1,081	1,229	711
Ballymore Eustace	2,085	2,129	511
Ballyraggett ...	1,629	1,577	499
Baltinglass ...	1,670	1,928	941
Banagher ...	2,636	2,827	1,114
Birr ...	6,594	6,336	4,438
Callan ...	?	3,111	1,840
Carlingford ...	1,319	1,110	606
Carlow ...	9,114	8,734	6,513
Castlecomer ...	2,436	1,765	958
Castledermot ...	1,385	1,416	536
Castlepollard ...	1,618	1,310	707
Celbridge ...	1,647	1,289	915
Chapelizod ...	1,632	1,575	?
Clane ...	1,216	335	182
Clara ...	1,149	1,165	1,111
Clontarf ...	3,323	2,664	?
Collon ...	1,153	936	under 500
Drogheda ...	17,002	18,980	12,760
	1831.	1841.	1901.
Duleek ...	1,217	1,158	331
Dunlavin ...	1,068	990	479
Durrow ...	1,298	1,318	559
Edenderry ...	1,283	1,850	1,611
Edgeworthstown ...	1,001	864	578
Enniscorthy ...	5,955	7,016	5,458
Frankford or Kilcormas ...	1,112	1,345	574
Freshford ...	2,175	2,075	551
Galway ...	?	17,275	13,426
Gorey ...	3,044	3,365	2,178
Gowran ...	1,009	1,169	453
Graiguenamanagh	2,639	2,248	1,000
Granard ...	2,069	2,408	1,662
Kells ...	4,326	4,205	2,428
Kilbeggan ...	1,895	1,910	901
Kilcock ...	1,730	1,537	662
Kilcullen ...	699	1,056	619
Kildare ...	1,753	1,629	1,576
Kilkenny ...	23,741	23,625	13,242
Killothegrange ...	1,305	1,912	213
Leighlinbridge ...	1,090	918	646
Leixlip ...	1,159	1,086	691
Longford ...	4,516	4,966	3,747
Lucan ...	1,229	563	872
Maryborough ...	3,223	3,633	2,957
Maynooth ...	2,053	2,129	948
Moate ...	1,785	2,095	1,284
Monasterevan ...	1,[illegible]	1,097	762
Mountmellick ...	4,577	4,755	2,407
Mountrath ...	2,593	3,000	1,304
Mullingar ...	4,295	4,569	4,500
Navan ...	4,416	4,987	3,839
Newtownbarry ...	1,430	1,437	890
Oldcastle ...	1,531	1,508	745
Philipstown ...	1,454	1,489	778
Portarlington ...	3,091	3,106	1,943
Prosperous ...	1,038	526	84
Rathangan ...	1,165	1,033	619
Rathdowney ...	1,214	1,414	1,048
Rathdrum ...	1,054	1,232	647
Rathfarnham ...	1,572	644	437
Ross, New ...	5,001	7,133	5,847
Rush ...	2,144	1,603	1,304
Shinrone ...	1,287	1,054	358
Skerries ...	2,556	2,417	1,121
Stradbally ...	1,799	1,682	937
Swords ...	2,537	1,788	944
Taghmon ...	1,109	1,303	555
Thomastown ...	2,871	2,348	909
Trim ...	3,282	2,269	1,513
Tullamore ...	6,342	6,342	4,059
Tullow ...	1,929	3,097	1,725
Urlingford ...	1,366	1,742	666
Wexford ...	10,673	11,252	11,116

EOIN MAC NEILL

(To be continued.)

THE QUESTION OF THE CAMPS

In the course of some recent conversations with officers of some of the country corps the question of local training camps for the coming summer was discussed. As a result these officers were directed to make inquiries locally as to suitable sites, equipment facilities, number of men to attend training, etc. There is, of course, no immediate need to make preparations for the camps, because the weather will not be suitable for another couple of months or so. All the same, if proper measures are taken thus far in advance the working of the camps will be smooth-running from the start, and no time will be lost in getting into stride.

This year every Volunteer should spend some time in camp. The proportion of our men who have slept under canvas is very small and this means that the number of them who are capable of looking after themselves is also small. The percentage who could help to straighten out things for the others on service is, of course, only the same.

Now it is not necessary for a man to spend very long in camp in order to feel at home. A few days will suffice to break him in. He can learn in a week-end in camp what will be enough to make things much easier for him. There is, in consequence, no need for a man to stay away from camp because he can't manage to spend a week there. It is in the direction of meeting the requirements of such men as these that important preparations should be considered this coming summer.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comairle Coitcinn Féinne Fáil ina nDúnport D. Domhnaigh an 16 ad lá de'n mí so, agus an tOide Eóin Mac Néill, Uachtarán, ina chathaoirleach orcha.

Do bí teachtaí i láthair ó phríomhóir na gConntae, agus do bí lucht na Comairle Ghnótha ina bhrochair.

Do rinneadh a lán ghnótha.

Do haontuigeadh an rún úd do cuireadh i gcló ceana i dtaoibh gan cur ruar le fóiréigin lucht Riaghaltais Sasan ran áit a bhfuilid ag bheith ar óglácaibh agus ogá gconghbáil i ngéibeann gan thriail nó gan coir do chur ina leith.

Tionól do bí ag an gComa'rle Ghnótha D. Céadaoin an 19 ad lá agus an tUachtarán ina chathaoirleach.

Do fhíoch rséal go rabhthar tar éis Coirte Conntae do chur ar bun i gCo. an Chláir.

Do rinneadh beirt timthire ra mbreas d'ainmniugh dh.

Dúnport na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 19 Ean., 1916.

The General Council of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Sunday the 16th inst., Professor Eoin Mac Neill, President, in the chair.

Delegates were present from the majority of the counties, in addition to the members of the Central Executive.

A large amount of business was transacted.

The meeting unanimously adopted the resolution already published declaring the intention of the Irish Volunteers not to submit to the infringement of the elementary rights of Irishmen involved in the present policy of the British Government in arresting and imprisoning Irish Volunteers without trial and, in some cases, without charge preferred.

The Central Executive met on Wednesday the 19th inst., the President in the chair.

The formation of a County Board for Clare was announced.

Two additional organisers were appointed.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson St.,
Dublin, 19th Jan., 1916.

Notes from Headquarters

RESISTANCE.

The resolution published last week was adopted by the General Council after mature deliberation and in full cognisance of the consequences which it may entail. It has been unanimously decided by their governing body that Irish Volunteers cannot submit to the denial of their personal rights and freedom involved in the new practice of the British Government of arresting and detaining men without trial and, in some instances, without any charge preferred. The Volunteers have already made it impossible for the Government to continue its deportation campaign. The present campaign will be made just as impossible, though it may require sturdier action than simply refusing to be deported. Let the consequences of such action be on the head of the British Government.

MOBILISATION SCHEMES.

Are the Companies and Battalions perfecting their mobilisation schemes? We ask every officer and sub-officer to put the following questions to himself, to answer them truthfully, and then to say whether he is satisfied with his answer:—(1) In what time can I reach all my men and have them assembled with all their equipment at a given point in their district? (2) Is that the minimum time in which, humanly speaking, it is possible for the thing to be done? (3) Is it quite certain that the scheme is such as to work smoothly in the absence of particular men and even in my own absence? (4) Have I provided for all the contingencies that seem—again humanly speaking—possible? If the answers which he can truthfully give to the e questions are not absolutely satisfactory, it is obvious that the unit commander must get to work again on his mobilisation scheme.

ARMING.

Many of our Companies are amazingly fastidious in the matter of arms. Weapons which have been found serviceable in the present European war are, in some cases, not good enough for Volunteer Companies. One finds it difficult to have patience with such an outlook. We put it to the men and officers of the Companies concerned that in refusing to arm themselves with the weapons that are available they are possibly neglecting the only chance they will have of arming themselves until the war is over. It is the business and duty of every Volunteer Company to arm itself **here and now** with such arms as it can get.

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

More Talk to Section Commanders—Advice from a Prince.

The Dublin Section Commanders are beginning to show the effects of the special training they have been undergoing, and it is to be hoped that in other parts of the country these—the most important of the Volunteer officers—are receiving the attention they deserve. In Dublin about sixty men attend the course, which gives an average of three per company. This is not sufficient, especially when we consider that some Companies send eight or ten men to the class. If the Brigade is to be efficiently officered in this respect the present average should be at least doubled.

* * *

A number of the smaller Companies are inclined to content themselves with appointing a couple of section commanders and sending them to the class. This is a very short-sighted policy. It is impossible to say when we may have a large accession of strength, and require all the highly-trained men we can get to lick the recruits speedily into shape. Every Company should therefore appoint a Company Adjutant and four section commanders, no matter how small it may be, and Companies of any size should have squad leaders as well. All these men are obliged to attend the classes at Camden Row. It may be noted in passing that, judging from the attendance at these classes, very few companies have Company Adjutants. This is a very important position, with definite duties which cannot be overlooked.

* * *

We have said a good deal at different times about the importance of section commanders, and have gone into their duties in action very fully. But it is in the maintenance of discipline and in training men that the section commander is seen to be indispensable. At the classes, therefore, he should pay special attention to the methods used in teaching himself, and so fit himself to transmit what he has learnt to others, and at all times, on parade and in the field, should enforce rigid discipline among his men. He should remember that three-quarters of the value of drill is its disciplinary effect, and should, therefore, allow no slackness. On this question of discipline Prince Oscar, fifth son of the German Emperor, says:

* * *

"What moral is pointed by Hill 196, whose every inch of ground was ploughed by bullets and soaked our dearest blood? What were the underlying causes that contributed to our victory? What was it that made every beardless boy a hero, made the oldest man in the Landwehr forget his age and the privations he was enduring? Let us briefly review the principal factors that made for success.

"The value of **iron discipline** was overwhelmingly demonstrated. It is safe to assert that the most highly-disciplined regiment will be the most successful in action. Youthful enthusiasm may be undermined, patriotism may be forced into abeyance by hours of continual shelling; worse than that, the very power to think becomes inhibited in the witches' cauldron of 'drumfire.' It is then that discipline asserts itself. Nothing else gives the same moral stamina, and in difficult positions discipline is bound to be the determining factor. Before the war began the voices of many people were raised who, from false sentimentality, from undue softness, from ill-will, or from sheer stupidity, were eager to have an end put for all time to the unconditional obedience and rigid drill of our army; in brief, to our entire military training, the value of which has been tested and proved through centuries. I think the battle of Champagne must have taught them to amend this view."

* * *

Prince Oscar goes on to say that the excellence of the German Army is entirely due to the precision and order learned on parade. "The standing-at-attention, the manual of arms, the goose step—to all these we owe the efficiency displayed by our troops in withstanding with iron might the French alertness, in circumventing French enthusiasm and gallantry." Later on his Royal Highness tells us that one crack regiment of Guards, when ordered to the rear for a much-needed rest after months of fighting, continued to practise its exercises and drills from the first day of their holiday, lest their discipline should become impaired.

* * *

Therefore let our hard-bitten section commanders take up their task. The discipline of the Volunteers is first and foremost in their hands. Let them, therefore, insist on clockwork precision on parade, and they will save themselves the trouble at some distant date of preventing their men running away in action. We said before that the best drilled army would be the best fighting army, and here we have given proof positive. You section commanders who exist are good and getting better. Let us have more of you.

E. O'D.

SUBSCRIPTION.—The Irish Volunteer will be posted free to any address for one year at a cost of 6/6; for half a year, 3/3; for the quarter, 1/8.

1st DUBLIN BATT. AT FINGLAS

On Sunday, January 16th, the 1st Batt. Dublin Brigade had a very useful morning's work at Little Finglas. The battalion was divided into two equal portions, and the scheme was intended to bring about an encounter battle—an interesting variation from former field-days. One half-battalion got a twenty-minute start and followed the Glasnevin tram line: the other marched past the Cemetery. The instructions to each were identical: to seize the cross-roads at Little Finglas. The opposing commanders were allowed the fullest liberty of action.

The second column, by reason of going at the double for part of the time, reached the objective first. Everything turned on this, because it was thus possible to occupy the high ground which commands all the approaches. If this column had been forestalled it could never have attacked at all: it would have had to debouch from a single bridge and scale a very steep height in face of equal numbers. Some thirty men fell out on the way: this should not be, as the road was good and the fall of it favoured the doubling. The men want some more practice in moving at the double with their rifles. A few short bursts every time they are out would soon tune them up.

This second column sent on an advance party to proceed beyond the cross, make the enemy deploy, and delay his advance. This detachment mistook the route and marched away towards Finglas proper. This should not have happened: the order should have been explained with reference to the map or a sketch, and all doubt about it removed. A subordinate should always be made to repeat such an order, to be sure it is properly understood. Later this body was recalled by cyclist and formed into a reserve, which was subsequently used to ward off an attack against the left flank.

The country near Little Finglas is very broken and intersected, and is, in addition, very lumpy and hilly. Special care must be taken in such country, where the fields look into one another—much more than in level country where the hedges form better cover. There are always a number of little sky-lines in hilly country, and the danger of showing up on these is considerable. Thus the defenders' reserves were lying down on a flat-topped hillock and were, in that position, hidden from view from some angles, but from others could be fired into. This might have been remedied by greater care in moving into position.

The attackers advanced once with practically no precaution, and were retired some distance along the road. Their second advance was delivered across country in an attempt to move round the defenders' left. Even then proper advantage was not taken of existing cover.

There were many large drains 7 feet deep or so, which gave perfect lines of approach. These were not used, apparently, because there were a few inches of water in them. This was the fault of the commanders of sections. Any N.C.O. who jumps down first himself in such circumstances will usually find his men behind him. The Volunteers might with great advantage adopt the French and American command, **"Follow me,"** for extended order drill and manœuvres.

The outflanking movement was met and checked by the advance party—now a reserve—which was strongly posted in some outbuildings, the situation of which commanded practically all the approaches. When the exercise was called off there was no doubt in the minds of any of the umpires that the attack had definitely broken down.

A fair grasp of the tactical possibilities of the ground was shown by the officers; but the rank and file did not seem to realise the ease with which they could be seen on account of the hilly country. Further practice is necessary in this respect. The senior officers who have acted as umpires are getting a good deal of useful instruction by doing so. It is an excellent means of getting a sound idea of a situation.

Judging by the good turn-out, these Sunday-morning manœuvres are very popular with the men. The exercises are short, and the men's interest is kept up all the time if suitable schemes are arranged. Even the men who dine very early are able to be back in good time for dinner; and they have the remainder of the day to themselves.

We desire to draw the attention of our readers to the newly-established Irish Employment Bureau. As this is a purely Irish organisation, started with a view of checking the evils of emigration, the supplying to employers of men best fitted for any positions they may have vacant, and obtaining for employees positions for which they are suited, we respectfully solicit their mutual support. All communications to be addressed to the Secretary, Irish Employment Bureau, Head Office, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

Cumann na mBan

The meeting of the Executive Council will be at 3.30 p.m. on Tuesdays, at 2 Dawson Street, in future, instead of at 4 o'clock, as there is a steady increase of business to be done with the growth of Branches through the country. Again we call the attention of our readers to the Whist Drive which is being organised by the Executive for February 3rd at the D.B.C., O'Connell Street. Tickets can be had from the Secretary at 2 Dawson Street. The prizes offered are most uncommon and include productions of some of our best artists. Cards will begin at 7.30 p.m. Tickets 2s. 6d. each. We report with pleasure the inception of two more new Branches, one at Carrickmacross and another at Castlegregory. The Secretary of the Belfast Branch has just sent in a good account of the persistent energy of the Cumann na mBan in the northern capital.

NOTES ON TRAINING.

DUTIES OF SENDING STATIONS.

(a) The caller spelling out the word to the sender so that there will be no delay in his sending it on directly "Answered" has been given by the answer reader.

(b) The sender hearing the word "Answered" from the answer reader and beginning to send the next word.

(c) The answer reader seeing the answer given by the distant station and saying "Answered" to the sender.

At the receiving station:

(a) The reader seeing the flag lowered at the distant station at the completion of word or group, and saying "Group."

(b) The writer hearing the word "Group" given by the reader and saying "Yes" if it is correct.

(c) The answerer hearing the order "Yes" given by the writer and complying with it.

The writer who is responsible for the correct receipt of the message should exercise the necessary supervision and orders to ensure this.

The Dublin Brigade

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING 30th JANUARY, 1916.

1. All Classes as usual.

2. Instruction for Sub-Officers at Camden Row on Wednesday and Saturday at 4 p.m.

3. Examination for Officers will begin on February 7th.

4. On Sunday the 30th, the Officers' Section and Squad Commanders of the 3rd Batt. will assemble at Camden Row at 10.45 a.m. and the Officers' Section and Squad Commanders of the 4th Batt. at First Lock, Grand Canal, at 11.30 a.m. to visit the scene of recent night operations.

TIME TABLE OF CLASSES.

First Aid, etc.—Monday, 8 p.m.
Stretcher Drill, Camden Row, Friday, 8 p.m.
Engineering—Friday, 9 p.m.
Field Work, Father Mathew Park, Saturday, 4 p.m.
Musketry—Friday, 8 p.m.
Armourers—Wednesday, 8 p.m.
Signalling—Monday, 8.15 p.m.
Lecture for Junior Officers—Tuesday and Saturday at 8 p.m.
Training for Sub-Officers—Wednesday and Saturday at Camden Row, 4 p.m.

E. DE VALERA,
Brigade Adjutant.

TACTICAL PROBLEMS

I.—FOR ALL OFFICERS.

GENERAL IDEA.

The Dublin Brigade—5 infantry battalions and 5 cyclist companies, with staff and transport—is in billets in and around Finglas. The enemy is known to be in the general direction of north-west. Night fine, without moon.

(a) Assign troops for outpost duty, giving units, strength, etc.; and give reasons for your decisions.

(b) Write out orders of officer commanding the outposts for employment of his own command.

(References to Ordnance Survey Sheet 112—1 inch to a mile, coloured.)

All officers of the Dublin Brigade are required to send in solutions. The aid of text-books is not forbidden, but they should be used only sparingly. Forethought in details is to be aimed at.

II.—FOR ALL N.C.O's.

You are sent with 6 cyclists and a full section of infantry to reconnoitre for news of the enemy along the main road towards Santry, including the neighbourhood of that village.

(a) Describe how you would carry out this duty.

(b) Supposing you find the enemy in the village, describe your action.

The points to note in detail are:—

Formation of your command and mode of advance.

What information you would look for.

The manner of your report.

It will be advisable to go over the ground. Allowance will be made only in the case of N.C.O's. of the 3rd and 4th Batts., if at all.

All solutions for both problems should reach Headquarters by February 5th.

Leabhar Drille Óglaċaiḃ na hÉireann

(An Leanṁaint).

Coṁarṫuġaḋ.

An Aiḃġitir Ṡemapóreaċ nó Aiḃġitir an Dá Ḃrat.

Deuntar an coṁarṫuġaḋ le dá ḃrat, beag nó mór. Bíonn na hraic beaga dá ṫroiġ ċearnaċa ar ṁéid. Bíonn na cinn ṁóra trí troiġṫe cearnaċa ar ṁéid. Bíonn crann an ḃraic trí troiġṫe go leiṫ ar faid 7 bíonn ré 3 ċeaṫramaḋ d'órlaċ tearna ag á bun agus leaṫ-órlaċ tearna ag á ḃárr.

Roinnteas an aiḃġioir ina feaċt gcoiscail 1.

Ciosal a 1—ó A go G.
" a 2—ó H go N (aċt J do leigint ar lár).
" a 3—ó Ó go S.
" a 4—T, U, V, 7 "Scrior amaċ"
" a 5—"An Coṁarṫa Uiṁreaċ" 7 J (nó an Comarṫa Aiḃġioireaċ) agus V.
" a 6—W agus X.
" a 7—Z.

Deuntar A, B, C, leis an láiṁ deis aċt is féidir D do deunaṁ le láiṁ ar biṫ. Deuntar E, F, G, leis an láiṁ ċlé amáin. Deuntar na litreaċa go cruinn beaċt i gcoṁnuiḋe agus cuireaḋ an coṁarṫóir crot air féin díreaċ mar a ċífear ins na pictiúirí.

Ċum H do deunaṁ, cuir an láṁ dear ag A agus le linn na láiṁe clé do ċur anonn go dtí B cartar an corp ar na crománaiḃ.

Coṁ-litreaċa nó Coṁmbráiṫre.

A agus G, B agus F, C agus E, H agus Z, I agus X, K agus V, L agus "scrior amaċ," M agus S, N agus U, O agus W, P agus J (nó, an "coṁarṫa aiḃġioreaċ), Q agus Y, T agus an "coṁarṫa uiṁreaċ."

Nuair a ḃeirṫe ag coṁarṫuġaḋ teaċtaireaċt i nGaeḋilg is annaṁ baḋ ġáḃaḋ an coṁarṫa féiṁiġṫe do deunaṁ. Is uirirte, cuir i gcár, an focal "cuir congnam cugam" do ṫuircint bíoḋ ná fuil aon dúraḋáin ins na háitiḃ 'nar gnáṫ ḋóiḃ beiṫ.

GORGEI & THE HUNGARIAN ARMY

Irish Volunteer officers can obtain much useful insight into the question of disciplining raw troops and making them efficient by studying the work of Görgei, the great general of the Hungarian Insurrection in 1848-9. We intend to publish a series of short articles—mainly in the general's own words—describing his experiences and methods. Görgei met with much interference, abuse and misrepresentation from his colleagues; and these circumstances eventually proved fatal to the Hungarian cause. But our main concern is to observe how he managed to form his raw and poorly-equipped levies into a formidable army with a view towards doing the same. The first selection we publish gives a description of the state of his forces when he first assumed command.

1.—Görgei on the Danube.

In Ezolnok I obtained my first insight into the state of affairs in Hungary, and was, alas, undeceived. I had supposed that all my countrymen were animated, like myself, with a determination to sacrifice everything for the salvation of the fatherland. I confidently expected that the whole Magyar population of Hungary would rise as one man in defence of our native soil and all that renders it dear to us. But, to leave their own hearths, that they might defend those of their fellow-citizens, which were nearer the danger, seemed to fathers of families and proprietors among the National Guard a matter demanding most mature deliberation.

Ezolnok is situated on this side the Theiss. The estimated number of mobile National Guards to be furnished by this district was about 5,000 men who, as it was said, were already eager for combat, and needed only to be put into ranks, to be a little drilled, and then led against the enemy. But of the 5,000 men thus officially calculated upon, in the course of a month with great difficulty I got together scarcely 700, and of these hardly 100 real volunteers. I was ordered to occupy Csepel, an island on the Danube below Pesth, and to frustrate at any cost attempts to cross the Danube by Field-Marshal Lieutenant Ban Jellachich, or his auxiliaries under Generals Roth and Philippovitch. I had to endeavour, if possible, to increase my numbers there, and also to obtain powers which might enable me successfully to resist far more dangerous enemies—the indolence, cowardice, and treason of the inhabitants of the district. I received command as reinforcements of the local militia of the Lower Danube.

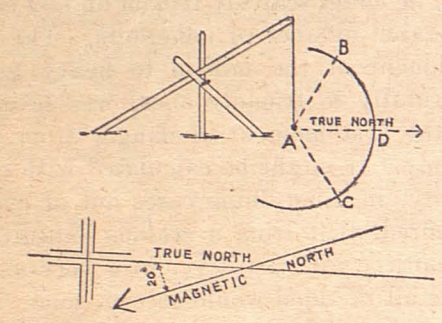
As commander-in-chief of the southern militia, I was never in a condition to know, even approximately, what numbers I should have at my disposal at any given time, or in any appointed place. The militia came, and the militia went just as it felt inclined. Generally, however, it came when the enemy was far off; when the enemy approached, the militia departed. In a word, it liked to avoid seeing the enemy. When by accident, however, and in spite of every precaution, it had the misfortune to come so near the enemy as to hear his shots, it shouted "Treachery!" and ran away as fast as it could.

The militiamen had a particular predilection for cannons. These they drew after them with enthusiasm, even without orders. Their first question to the person who presented himself as their leader always was, whether he had cannons. If his answer was in the affirmative, they joyfully prepared to march; if not, he could scarcely reckon on any considerable number of adherents. The attachment of the militia to heavy guns (naturally to friendly ones) was severed in the first moment of danger from the enemy. It might be calculated with certainty, in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred, that from a zealous expedition of militia with artillery, in a very short time all the men would return, somewhat exhausted indeed, yet otherwise unhurt, but without the cannons. The resolute leader of a well-disciplined corps of from 8,000 to 10,000 men could, therefore, hardly be effectually misled, in his operations, as to the hostilities practicable with such a militia.

NA FIANNA EIREANN

MAP READING (continued).

The needle of the compass points to the magnetic north. The magnetic north seldom coincides with the true north. The difference between the magnetic north, towards which the needle of the compass points, and the true north is called the magnetic variation. The variation is different in every part of the world. In Ireland the magnetic north lies about 20 degrees (20° W.) west of the true north meridian; in England it is only 15 degrees west (15° W.); and in the north of India the variation is 2 degrees east. Both the true north and magnetic north are shown on a field sketch by a conventional sign thus:



On ordnance survey maps the sheet line margins are rectangular and are drawn parallel to the true north and south line. This is not the case with field sketches, for it often is more convenient to sketch a route as it would appear to those marching along it. Thus a sketch of a route to be traversed by a force would be drawn so that the road took up the length of the sheet of paper, even though the bearing of that road was south-west. The conventional sign pointing in the direction of the north must always be shown on field sketches.

• • •

Finding the True North.

At noon the sun is practically due south. An easy way of finding the true north is to place two crossed sticks, lashed together, on level ground, and fix a pole leaning between them pointing towards the north. Attach a plumb-line to the end of the pole so that the weight just touches the ground as at A in Fig. 2. About half-an-hour before 12 o'clock the end of the shadow made by the pole should be marked, point B. With A as centre and B a radius, describe a semi-circle. The circle will gradually become shorter and shorter till noon; after this it will lengthen again and eventually touch the semi-circle; mark this point C, bisect the arc between B and C, as at D. A line drawn from the centre of the circle A through the point of bisection D, gives the direction of the true north.

The variation of your compass may be ascertained by taking the bearing of the line AD.

• • •

You can also find the direction of the north by holding a watch, on the palm of the hand, so that its hour hand points to the sun. In the middle between the time shown by the hour hand and the figure XII. on the dial lies the south. A line drawn between this middle point and the centre of the dial gives the true north and south line, the northern point being at the end running away from the direction of the sun.

• •

To find the direction of the north at night is a very easy matter if the stars are visible. The Pole Star is the nearest star to the North Pole, being at an angular distance of about 1° from that point. The Pole Star can be found by the constellations known as the Plough (Ursa major) and Orion. Its position can best be shown by a diagram which will appear in these columns next week.

FIRST AID CLASSES
For Members of Cumann na mBan, Thursday afternoon 4 to 5.30, beginning October 29th. Those wishing to attend should apply by letter to Hon. Secs., Cumann na mBan Executive, 2 Dawson Street.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

THE

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 61 (New Series). SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5th, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

Last year the Thing that calls itself a Government in Ireland tried the plan of ordering Irish Volunteer officers and organisers into banishment, and failed. Now the Thing has begun this year of grace 1916 with a new Irish policy. The statesmen responsible for what is called Government in Ireland tell us that they are engaged in a war to preserve liberty, civilisation, and small nations from the oppression of Prussianism. Some weeks ago they seized in his house at five o'clock in the darkness of a mid-winter morning and cast into Cork Jail an Irish Volunteer officer and organiser, Terence MacSwiney. No warrant setting forth any charge was produced, and since he was seized Mr. MacSwiney has been locked up in Cork Jail without any charge whatsoever being brought against him. His relatives have written to this and that "authority" demanding to be told what is the charge against him, and have failed to get an atom of information. Questioned in Parliament, this alleged Government in Ireland replies that it has got the "facts" against Mr. MacSwiney but has not yet decided what form the charge is to take. So we are being saved from Prussian methods by the methods of Italian banditti. Who will say that Mr. Asquith, Prime Minister of England, was not perfectly sincere when he came over last to Dublin and told his audience, in presence of Mr. Redmond, Mr. Dillon, and Mr. Devlin, who no doubt applauded the declaration, that Ireland was a free country?

* * *

Who will say that Mr. Birrell is a canting hypocrite when he tells us that our loyalty is due to this sort of "Government?" This is one of the homeopathic doses administered by Mr. Birrell in "the delicate and difficult operation of introducing a true Empire patriotism" to take the place of the old "narrow patriotism" of Irish history. The delicate and difficult operation is not making much headway in Ireland, but perhaps Mr. Birrell thinks it a substantial gain for the True Empire Patriotism if he can violate the most elementary principles, not merely of national but of individual and civic liberty, while the forces behind him compel Mr. Redmond, Mr. Dillon, and Mr. Devlin to swallow the dose without a grin. He has at all events brought the "leaders" one step farther along the Sharp Curve. The whole Cabinet, Whig and Tory combined, with all the power they have now taken into their hands, would not dare to do in Great Britain what they have done in Ireland with the support of Mr. Redmond. The doctrine of the new and true Empire Patriotism exists for the special benefit of Ireland.

* * *

The public ought to keep a special lookout for the form that the charge against Mr. MacSwiney will take when the Castle lawyers have had time to digest the "facts" and to exhaust the resources of civilisation at their disposal, in order to induce the police to produce whatever other "facts" are needed. We have seen something of what the Liberal "Government" of Gladstone, Forster, and the Right Honourable Walter Boyd could do in the line of evidence in the Crossmaglen case—only something, for what has been published is a trifle to what has yet to be published regarding the "voluminous evidence" produced by Liberal Mr. Birrell's Liberal predecessors; and what is available for publication is only a trifle to what will be known when the zeal that animates the Right Hon. Walter Boyd for the disclosure of the truth in a petty bankruptcy case moves his Lordship to recognise that honesty begins at home. In the pigeonholes of the Castle, Mr. Attorney-General Gordon and Mr. Solicitor-General O'Connor will find honourable precedents for handling the case against Terence MacSwiney. Let them look up, for example, how Mr. Attorney-General Peter O'Brien, under the eye of Mr. Arthur Balfour, handled the collection of evidence about the killing of Police-Inspector Martin at Gweedore. They will find there that the Attorney-General instructed the local authorities that they were to produce evidence, if possible, showing that, during the conflict in which the Police-Inspector was killed, the crowd raised cheers for the Land League and the Plan of Campaign; the Attorney-General, having no evidence before him of the desired kind at the time when he issued this instruction, but being quite confident that some one or two among the police, with proper assistance, would rise to the occasion. Let the public keep a careful watch for the charge against Terence MacSwiney when the Castle lawyers have found it out, and for the evidence they will produce to sustain the charge, whatever it is to be.

* * *

Meanwhile, these Imperial methods of carrying the war in Ireland to a successful conclusion have the unstinted support of Messrs. Redmond, Dillon and Devlin. We heard last year of a resolution against "senseless prosecutions," which has never been published. We read Mr. Devlin's letter of protest to Mr. Birrell. We saw, and the British Government saw, the strength and sincerity behind all that, when Mr. Redmond subsequently allowed his name to be attached to an interview published in the daily papers, where he justified the moderation of his Government for merely taking away the liberty of men who, said the same interview, would have been shot if they were in Germany. How the Government must admire and respect the Irish Party for its protests under the chairmanship of Mr. Redmond! How they must quail before the iron fibre and steadfast purpose of the men who are to insist on the fulfilment of the Treaty of Home Rule!

* * *

In the works of that "true-born Englishman," Daniel Defoe, a pioneer of pious Liberalism, I find lines which will serve well as an epitaph on the tombstone of a certain sort of statesmanship. These lines were addressed by Defoe to English politicians, not to Irish aliens:

Thou that for Party interest didst indite
And thought'st to be excused for meaning right,
This comfort will thy want of wit afford
That now thou art left a Coxcomb on record.
England had always this one happiness,
Never to look at service, but success;
And he's a fool that differing judgment makes
And thinks to be rewarded for mistakes.
If thou canst name the long-forgotten days
When men for good intentions met with praise;
If in our ancient records you can find
True Englishmen to gratitude inclined;
If it has been the talent of the land
Merit without success to understand,
Then you might have expected a reward

And then have thought the disappointment hard
Before thee stands the power of punishment
In an exasperated Government;
Behind, the vacant carpet fairly spread
From whence thy too-well-served allies have fled.
At a remoter distance, there they stand
And mock thy folly but thy fault commend,
Freely thy former services disown
And slyly laugh to see thee first undone.

* * *

The Viceroy in Ireland and Mr. Redmond are once more billed to attend a meeting in Galway. Lord Wimborne has now special charge of the work of recruiting for the Imperial forces in Ireland. I drew attention some weeks ago to the sort of campaign those engaged in this work under His Excellency's control were carrying on in Kerry, in company with Mr. Redmond's unrecruited lieutenant, the temporary member for the Imperial Parliament in a Kerry constituency—a campaign of disreputable Billingsgate, under the joint licence of the Viceroy and the led leader. That campaign has since been continued. At a recent recruiting meeting near Castlemaine, Sergeant-Major O'Rahilly and Mr. Tom O'Donnell, M.P., once more turned up. The Sergeant-Major, speaking on behalf of the recruiting authorities, said "this was the time to make a real united Ireland," and proceeded to do his bit on the lines laid down by Mr. Birrell, Apostle of True Empire Patriotism, for Police Inspector Barrington in Tyrone. Referring to the Irish Volunteers, who have the approval of public opinion in Kerry, this speaker said: "The curse of many **murdered Irishmen** would light on the head of those false leaders who put these young men on the road to destruction for themselves and for Ireland. Those leaders who were trying to sow that disunion were doing it for lusty gold and were selling their native land." Mr. Tom O'Donnell backed up this effort "to make a real united Ireland." "He did not blame those young men," he said, "he blamed the traitors who were misleading them." Will the Viceroy and Mr. Redmond adopt this charming kind of "recruiting campaign" on their visit to Galway?

* * *

Kerry is a remarkable county. Its biggest landlord, Lord Lansdowne, laments the impossibility of enforcing conscription on Ireland, and keeps hundreds of serfs in Kerry out of the ownership of their land. The Sergeant-Major and the versatile Mr. Tom O'Donnell tell these serfs that Lord Lansdowne's Government is fighting to save them from German oppression. Kerry, too, has produced one more Vote of Confidence in Mr. Redmond, whose confidence in Kerry is indicated by the fact that he has found it unnecessary even to hold a Convention in the county. The Vote of Confidence was voted at a U.I.L. meeting in Listowel, at which seven persons, reported to have been present with an organiser, are described in a local paper as "old and **tired** Nationalists." It is only right that such men should pay the tribute of their confidence to their old and tired leaders.

* * *

The latest vote of confidence was for keeping conscription from Ireland. The Government explained to both its houses the reason for not trying conscription on Ireland. They forgot to explain that it was on account of Mr. Redmond. Mr. Birrell explained that conscription would not do in Ireland because it would spoil the chances of the True Empire Patriotism, but he did not suggest that T. P. stood for anything but the True Patriotism. An English paper boldly states that Mr. Redmond's hand was forced by his colleagues and that since then he has recovered his ground, whatever that may mean. If the Irish Party has prevented conscription in Ireland—and the resolution drafted by the U.I.L. organiser for the seven old and tired Nationalists in Listowel says they have—then it was because the Irish Party thought conscription would be a bad thing. But who was going to do this bad thing, who proposed to do it, who was prevented from doing it? Surely the British Government, to which we are all to be loyal, would not do a bad thing to Ireland. The seven old and tired confidence voters of Listowel should take care that in suggesting such a thing they have not brought themselves under the Defence of the Realm Act for using words likely to produce disaffection towards his Majesty's Government.

* * *

So we are told that it was the leaders of the Irish Party, and not the opposition of the Irish people and the Irish Bishops that saved Ireland from being robbed of a few thousand pounds. The U.I.L. organiser is probably at work drafting a fresh vote of confidence on that ground for the old and tired sevens to pass. Before they pass it, if they are not too old and too tired, would they ask themselves who the Robber was—who was the interrupted Burglar on this occasion? Is it possible that U.I.L. organisers who draft this sort of Votes of Confidence are really Sinn Feiners in disguise?

* * *

I find I am quite wrong in saying that the proposed robbery amounted to only £8,000. The Burglar has already agreed to disgorge about £43,000 of Irish plunder. He proposed to take something more than £200,000, but he is a generous Burglar and will be content with little more than £160,000. This will enable the war to be carried on for half an hour longer. About £75,000 of it will be taken from the luxury-loving Irish of the "Congested Districts," something over £50,000 from Irish education, about £22,000 from Irish afforestation, and £16,000 from the bloated Irish fishing industry. There has been no such row raised over most of these items as has been raised over the abolition of the post of one police magistrate, salary £1,000. All these items are annual and intended to be permanent. The Government has evidently made a great mistake in not conceding at least the police magistrate to stop the clamour of an indignant nation.

* * *

On the whole, a British Government has good cause to be well pleased with itself and with its Irish subjects when it lays itself out to take £8,000,000 a year of additional taxation from Ireland, and succeeds in getting the Irish people and their "representatives" to overlook this matter of £8,000,000 by the simple expedient of reducing the expenditure in Ireland by £200,000, allowing people in Ireland to make a first-class row over the reduction, shutting their mouths by handing back £40,000—the two hundreth part of what is taken from them! And yet some people are always saying that the English do not understand Ireland.

EOIN MAC NEILL.

MOYCULLEN, CO. GALWAY.

Recruiting for the Irish Volunteers is going ahead rapidly in Co. Galway, and Moycullen district answered the call on Sunday, 15th January, with a total of 85 men.

A very enthusiastic meeting was held in the Old Schoolhouse, Moycullen (by permission of Fr. Corbett), at which over 200 people were present. Messrs. Nicholls and O'Dea (Solrs.) and Capt. Mellows, Organiser, addressed the meeting, after which a "call for recruits" produced the above result. The recruits were then put through a course of preliminary drill lasting for nearly an hour. As a result of this, several surrounding districts are very anxious to fall into line, and satisfactory results are expected from the "Men of the West."

SOME NOTES ON FOOD.

I set down here some notes with regard to the food which would be fitting for a fighting man. So far as I can I will give notes of the daily rations for various European Armies. I do so for purposes of contrast and in the hope that the notes may be of some service to Volunteers who may have to deal with such problems.

German.

The daily ration for the German soldier includes 26 ozs. of fresh bread or 17 ozs. of biscuit; 13 ozs. of fresh meat or 7 ozs. of smoked meat; 4 ozs. of rice or 8 ozs. of flour or 52 ozs. of potatoes; almost 1 oz. of salt; nearly 1 oz. of roasted coffee or 1-10th oz. of tea; ½ oz. of sugar.

These figures are for the standard ration, which is probably very different from the one being used in the various battle areas, which will vary considerably according to circumstances.

The Victories of Peace

III.

The following is a continuation of the Irish towns which had a declining population after thirty years of the Union :—

	Population in 1831.	1841.	1901.
IN MUNSTER—			
Askeaton ...	1,515	1,862	679
Ballylongford ...	1,300	1,143	542
Bandon ...	9,917	9,049	2,830
Bantry ...	4,275	4,082	3,109
Bonmahon ...	972	1,771	116
Borrisokane ...	1,185	1,625	669
Borrisoleigh ...	1,304	1,438	593
Buttevant ...	1,536	1,524	979
Cahir ...	3,408	3,668	2,058
Cappaghwhite ...	695	1,046	498
Cappoquin ...	2,289	2,341	1,214
Carrickbeg ...	2,704	2,680	?
Carrick-on-Suir ...	6,922	8,369	5,406
Cashel ...	?	5,782	2,938
Castleisland ...	1,570	1,687	1,497
Castlemartyr ...	?	1,397	346
Castletownroche ...	1,095	1,063	537
Charleville ...	4,766	4,287	2,000
Clogheen ...	1,928	2,049	914
Clonakilty ...	3,807	3,993	3,098
Clonmel ...	15,134	13,505	10,167
Cloyne ...	2,227	2,200	827
Cork ...	94,598	92,985	100,022
Cove ...	6,966	5,142	7,909
Croom ...	1,268	1,470	504
Dingle ...	4,327	3,386	1,786
Doneraile ...	2,652	2,722	794
Dungarvan ...	6,527	8,625	4,850
Dunmanway ...	2,738	3,086	1,776
Ennis ...	7,711	9,318	5,093
Ennistymon ...	1,430	2,089	1,223
Fermoy ...	6,976	6,379	6,126
Fethard ...	3,405	3,915	1,498
Glanworth ...	1,098	1,012	458
Glin ...	1,030	1,208	714
Hospital ...	1,131	781	697
Kanturk ...	?	4,388	1,583
Kenmare ...	1,072	1,339	1,122
Kilfinane ...	1,752	1,782	1,016
Killaloe ...	1,411	2,009	885
Killarney ...	6,715	5,964	5,656
Killenaule ...	1,578	1,786	560
Kilmacthomas ...	982	1,917	388
Macroom ...	3,199	4,794	3,016
Kilrush ...	3,996	5,071	4,179
Kilworth ...	1,963	1,772	408
Kinsale ...	7,312	6,918	4,250
Limerick ...	66,554	65,296	46,170
Lismore ...	2,894	3,007	1,583
Macroom ...	3,199	4,194	3,016
Mallow ...	5,229	6,851	4,542
Midleton ...	2,034	4,591	3,361
Millstreet ...	1,935	2,162	1,028
Milltown ...	1,429	797	484
Miltownmalbay ...	726	1,295	1,013
Mitchelstown ...	3,545	4,181	2,146
Mullinahone ...	1,175	1,306	519
Nenagh ...	8,466	8,618	4,704
Newcastle West ...	2,908	2,917	2,599
Newmarket ...	1,437	1,899	965
Newmarket-on-F. ...	1,118	1,526	504
Newport ...	852	1,072	637
Passage West ...	2,141	1,721	2,027
Portlaw ...	1,618	3,467	1,105
Rathcormack ...	1,574	1,321	256
Rathkeale ...	4,972	4,201	1,749
Rosscarbery ...	1,522	1,530	532
Roscrea ...	5,512	5,275	2,325
Sixmilebridge ...	1,491	848	374
Skibbereen ...	4,429	4,715	3,208
Tallow ...	2,998	2,969	964
Tarbert ...	956	1,024	410
Templemore ...	2,936	3,685	2,774
Thurles ...	7,084	7,523	4,411
Tipperary ...	6,972	7,370	6,281
Tralee ...	9,568	11,363	9,867
Tramore ...	2,224	1,120	1,733
Tulla ...	874	1,217	592
Waterford ...	28,821	23,216	26,796
Youghal ...	9,608	9,939	5,393
IN CONNACHT—			
Athenry ...	1,319	1,236	853
Ballina ...	5,510	5,313	4,505
Ballinasloe ...	4,615	4,934	4,904
Ballinrobe ...	2,604	2,678	1,544
Boyle ...	3,433	3,325	2,477
Carrick-on-Shannon	1,870	1,984	1,118
Castlebar ...	6,373	5,137	3,585
Castlerea ...	1,172	1,233	1,190
Claremorris ...	1,476	2,256	1,118
Clifden ...	1,257	1,509	828
Crossmolina ...	1,481	1,672	527
Elphin ...	1,507	1,551	728
Eyrecourt ...	1,789	1,419	414
Foxford ...	1,068	680	615
Galway ...	?	17,275	13,426
Gort ...	3,627	3,056	1,339
Headford ...	1,441	1,647	551
Killala ...	1,125	1,446	510
Loughrea ...	6,268	5,458	2,557
Manorhamilton ...	903	1,507	871
Mohill ...	1,606	1,626	793
Newport ...	1,235	1,091	471
Portumna ...	1,122	1,643	961
Roscommon ...	3,306	3,439	1,891
Sligo ...	15,152	12,272	10,870
Strokestown ...	1,547	1,611	801
Tuam ...	6,883	6,034	2,896
Westport ...	4,448	4,365	3,892

Of Ireland's 278 towns, 235 have declined in population under the Union. Of these, 106 already showed a decline during the decade 1831-1841, at a time when the general population of Ireland was still increasing—from which we can judge the specially destructive influence of English government on the town life of this country. In Ulster, 46 towns declined under the Union, 24 of them before 1841; in Leinster, 81 declined, 42 before 1841; in Munster, 80 declined, 28 before 1841; in Connacht, 28 declined, 12 before 1841.

The Parliamentary Gazeteer of Ireland takes a town of 2,000 inhabitants or upwards to be a civic area, and classes all small towns with the rural areas. On this basis, 44 civic areas in Ireland have ceased to be civic areas under the operation of the Union. No despotism, no state of war, no domestic disorder, has produced anywhere in the world, civilised or uncivilised, during the nineteenth century, such achievements as British Peace and Law and Order and Civilisation can boast in Ireland.

EOIN MAC NEILL.

IRISH HISTORY LECTURES.

A lecture on "The Bruce Invasion" will be delivered in the Gaelic League Hall on Sunday next the 6th inst., at 8 p.m., by Arthur Griffiths. Admission by season ticket or on payment of 3d. at door. Those who intend to be present at this lecture are requested to come as early as possible (after 7.30 p.m.) in order to facilitate the arrangements for seating the whole audience.

SUBSCRIPTION.—THE IRISH VOLUNTEER will be posted free to any address for one year at a cost of 6/6; for half a year, 3/3; for the quarter, 1/8.

County Organising Conferences

In the work of recruiting for the Irish Volunteers it will be found more advantageous to organise from local centres rather than direct from Dublin. Headquarters cannot, without neglecting the vital work of higher organisation, training and arming, take up the duty of organising individual groups broadcast. Such work must be done within the various counties by county authorities. Headquarters will approve of, or suggest, schemes for recruiting, but much local help must be forthcoming. Each county must rely on itself largely in the preliminary stages.

In counties where the organisation is still backward it will be found advisable to proceed by means of a provisional County Conference. Such a Conference should not be limited merely to delegates of affiliated Companies, but every district, even though the active sympathisers there be very few, should be represented. The reports of the various representatives could enable such a Conference to arrive at a very accurate idea of the state of affairs in the county. Starting with this information, plans for organising, suitable to the local circumstances, could be devised. No unit, however small, should be neglected. Five men living in a district of some local strategic importance may be of more value than twenty in a larger centre of population. Each member of the Conference should take on himself the responsibility of seeing to the organisation of a particular district. The Conference should meet regularly to review the work in the county as a whole, and its secretary should keep in regular communication with the Director of Recruiting at Headquarters. We must banish the feeling of helplessness and lethargy which seems prevalent in some districts. No district should wait to be organised. It can take very effective preliminary steps itself. Let the young men of each locality get into some organised shape of their own accord. The organisers and instructors from Headquarters will be sent to those districts which deserve them. So will the guns.

Volunteers and sympathisers in those counties which have not yet passed the preliminary stages of organisation are invited to communicate with the Director of Recruiting, who will take steps for the summoning of such Conferences.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comhairle Ghnóthaí Féinne Fáil ina n-Dúnphort tráthnóna D. Céadaoin, an 26ad lá d'Eanair, agus an Ceann Cátha Éamonn Ceannt ina cathaoirleach orthu.

Do rinneadh a lán oibre do bhain le horduithe agus le harmáil na Féinne.

Do haontuigeadh ar a chur i gcuimhne d' Fhiannaibh go bhfuilid fá ghearaibh gan sgaramaint le n-a n-armaibh le n-a raoghal; gur ceart airm do chongbháil i n-áit ráthúilte acht iad do bheith ar fhaghál i gcomhnaidhe.

Dúnphort na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 26 Ean., 1916.

AINMNIUGHADH.

An Captaen Liam Ó Maoil íora de bhuidhin na dTimtirí chum beith ina Ceann Cátha.

Mise,
PÁDRAIC MAC PIARAIS,
Ceann Cátha,
Riaraidhe an Orduighte.

Dúnphort na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 26 Ean., 1916.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, 26th January, Commandant Eamonn Ceannt in the chair.

A large amount of business connected with organisation and arming was transacted.

It was agreed to remind Volunteers of their obligation not to part with their weapons but with their lives, and of the desirability of keeping their weapons in safe, but accessible, places.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson St.,
Dublin, 26th Jan., 1916.

THE AUXILIARY.

Enrolment forms to be signed by members of the Auxiliary and forms with spaces for ten names, to be used by Organisers of the Auxiliary, can be obtained from the General Secretary.

Notes from Headquarters

THE HEADQUARTERS PAGE.

This page is easily the least attractive in The Irish Volunteer. But is by far the most important. Most of the things that appear elsewhere in the Volunteer are "obiter dicta." The things printed here are "res judicatæ." Other writers express opinions; we announce decisions. The things ordered and counselled here are ordered and counselled because Headquarters wishes them to be carried out. It is the duty of every Volunteer officer and man to read this page in order that he may know what Headquarters wants him to do. Members of the Organising Staff, when they find fault because something is not done, are often met with the excuse, "I didn't know it was an order." This is no excuse. A Volunteer officer who does not make himself acquainted with the orders published on this page is neglecting his business. The things which have been constantly urged on this page for the past eighteen months have been so urged because Headquarters has certain very definite aims in view and because it wants the officers and men to realise what those aims are and to work towards them.

THE AIMS.

The aims are: (1) Rapidity of Mobilisation; (2) Completion of Armament; (3) Mobility in the field; (4) Marksmanship; (5) Good Scouting. Other things are important, but these are the essentials.

LINES OF WORK.

Here, then, are the lines of work marked out for commanders of units:

1. Perfection of Mobilisation Schemes.
2. Completion of their men's Armament.
3. Marching; Cycling; Study of Country.
4. Constant Target Practice.
5. Training of Scouts.

IDEALS.

There is a very simple ideal to be aimed at in each of these departments; and, unlike most ideals, these ideals are attainable.

1. As to mobilisation: Perfect and test a scheme which will enable you to assemble your unit (if a Company or smaller than a Company) with full equipment, in one hour from the receipt of order.

2. Have a gun which will shoot, with a reasonable amount of ammunition therefor, and a bayonet or other weapon which will stab, for every man in your unit; have also, if possible, a reserve of these things.

3. Teach your men to march four miles an hour with equipment; to cycle eight; to know every highway and by-way in your district and to take cover.

4. Shooting is not a mystery. Every man who has not a serious physical defect can be taught to shoot. Teach every man in your unit to knock a naggin bottle with a miniature at twenty-five yards.

5. Teach your scouts to get from any point to any other point in your district, by day or night, without being seen by anybody; and to bring you back exactly the information you sent them out to get.

DISCIPLINE.

Finally, establish and enforce discipline. Show your men that you are their comrade by sharing their hardships; show them that you are their commander by seeing that they do what you tell them. You must have them so well in hand that if ever they go into action no man will either hesitate or be precipitate.

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

Ancient Weapons and Modern Methods, with a Note on Hygiene.

Recently we put forward tentatively and almost apologetically the suggestion that stones might be found to be useful weapons in close range fighting. We have since then come upon an interesting document which tells of their actual and effective use in the present war. It appears that during the battle of Suvla Bay the supply of hand-grenades of a British bombing party gave out, and that they kept up the fight for some time with stones, and by hurling back such of the Turkish bombs as reached them unexploded. The fuse of a hand-grenade is arranged so as to cause the explosion four seconds after its release, and I have it on the authority of a British officer that quite frequently men of both sides have caught enemy bombs and hurled them back on the original throwers. Naturally the man who can do this must be pretty quick with his hands. I would suggest that playing catch with a cricket ball would be a useful exercise for Volunteers.

* * *

The aeroplane in warfare is a source of terror to some of our pessimists, and everyone will admit that the great powers of observation possessed by this arm would be as much gain to the enemy as the lack of them would be loss to us. We must, therefore, try to minimise the information they can pick up, and fortunately the means are at hand. So cheer up! We are not sure whether or not it has already been pointed out that hedges are of great value as a protection from observation from above. A firing line well posted along a good hedge would be extremely difficult to locate, and impossible to count. The aeroplane, it should be remembered, cannot descend lower than two thousand yards for fear of rifle fire, and is, therefore, valuable chiefly for obtaining information on a big scale; of this we shall hardly have very much to give. By marching in files under cover of the hedges bounding the roads an advancing force can partially conceal its movements and greatly conceal its strength not merely from aeroplanes but from rising ground as well.

* * *

I am afraid I am a bit discursive this week, but the approach of the season of camps suggests another subject of discourse. In camp and in the field (for hedge-fighting is hardly conducive to efficient nursing and surgery) our casualties will have to be their own first-aiders, if not their own doctors and surgeons too. It is obvious that the supply of bandages and medicaments in the hands of the First Aid sections will not be unlimited, and, therefore, for his own use as well as theirs every Volunteer, who is not supplied with an official field-dressing, should supply himself with a tube of Tincture of Iodine (preferably not of glass), some sticking-plaster, some gauze, and a few bandages, with some safety-pins. The whole should be enclosed in a large envelope and placed in the right hip pocket of the tunic.

* * *

Casualties do occur occasionally in camp. Barbed wire wounds the Volunteer, whether it is situated in enemy entanglements or not; scouts come to grief even when there is no enemy to snipe them; a restive bicycle has put many a good man out of action; many slightly wounded casualties have been reported when an entry had to be forced into the quartermaster's sardine tins. The abovementioned field-dressing should, therefore, accompany every Volunteer to camp.

* * *

There are also many other soldier's friends which should find a place in every pack, both in peace and war. He is a well-equipped soldier and a joy to his camp C.O. who provides himself with oil or dubbin for his boots, foot powder for his feet, vaseline for his chapped or sunbaked face, and tablets of ammoniated quinine, so that, having forded the river in face of overwhelming odds, he may not catch cold on the further bank. Slight casualties are a nuisance to the General of Irregulars. For who can hedge-fight with cold feet, or scout with a cold in the head?

E. O'D.

Cumann na mBan

Almost every Branch has taken out a course of lectures in First Aid by this. This is so much very good work done. The next thing is that every Branch sees that its members have the necessary outfit in case anything occurs which might call their knowledge into play. Each member should have a small First Aid outfit in readiness. In each outfit there should be: (1) A small bottle of iodine; (2) A camel hair brush (3) Package of boric powder; (4) Adhesive plaster; (5) Rubber plaster; (6) Triangular bandage; (7) 2-in. roller bandage; (8) Finger banadge; (9) Piece of lint of gangee tissue.

NOTES ON TRAINING (continued).

TRANSMITTING STATION.

When two stations are out of range an intermediate or transmitting station may be employed, and the duties in such station will be a combination of the abovementioned stations.

It will be necessary to combine these duties when there are only two available for each station.

PRACTICE.

Every signaller should be trained to perform the various duties of a station. Transmitting messages word for word should receive special attention, each taking a turn at the different duties.

[End of this Section.]

NIGHT OPERATIONS

1.—GENERAL PRINCIPLES.

The essentials for the success of night operations are discipline and cohesion, and they are therefore likely to end in discomfiture to untrained or half-trained troops. Such forces, however, depending to a large extent on the element of **surprise** in warfare, of necessity have to conduct a certain amount of their movements at night. Some brief notes on the subject will therefore be of value.

The objects of night operations are many. Night marches may be undertaken simply to avoid the heat of the day; an advance which was held up by daylight may be found possible to continue by night; movements that could have been observed by air-craft by day can be conducted secretly by night; tactical surprises may be achieved; and so on.

Surprise, as we have already said, is usually the main object. Secrecy in preparation is therefore important. It is not, however, all-sufficient. Thoroughness in detail and care in the preliminary arrangements must not be omitted.

Special training in night operations is necessary to secure success. All Companies should therefore set to work in this direction by holding occasional **night marches,** not omitting to use protective troops on all occasions.

Preliminary reconnaissance and the maintenance of connection between units are of the highest importance, and deserve a separate section.

2.—RECONNAISSANCE.

Under exceptionally favourable circumstances a night march may be conducted without preliminary reconnaissance, but the commander who orders it incurs a very serious responsibility. We may, therefore, lay it down as a definite rule that no night operations should be conducted without preliminary reconnaissance.

For a night march the route should be examined both by day and by night, and this examination should be made with the object of discovering the best method of **protecting** the column. Points where checks are likely to be met with, branch roads, places where the column might go astray, should all be noted. Recognisable landmarks should also be observed.

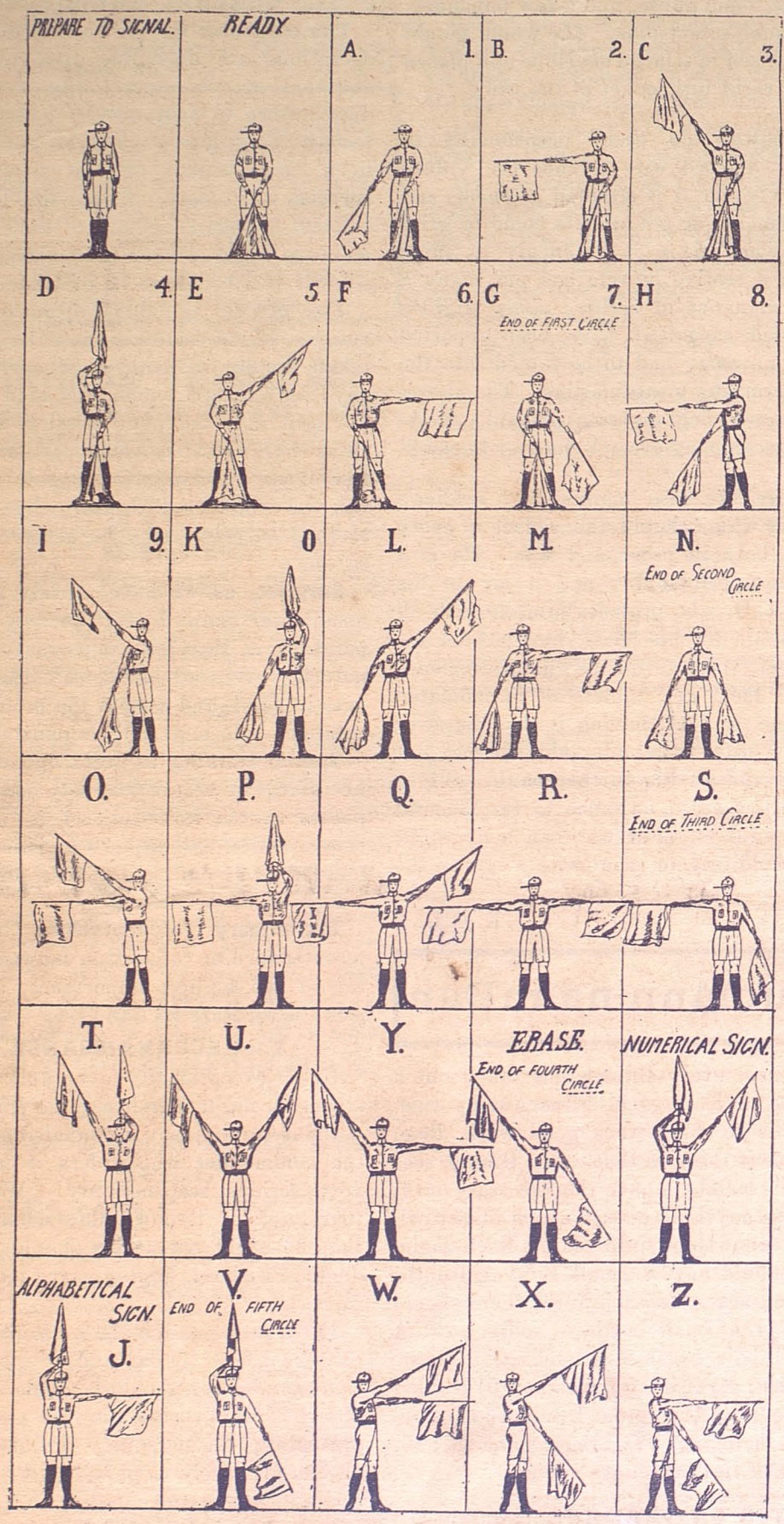
For advances and assaults, or any operations involving fighting, the ground must be reconnoitred, or at any rate observed, by daylight, and all obstacles, natural or artificial, and useful landmarks carefully noted. Scouts should be sent from all units involved, and these should act as guides to their units in the subsequent events.

The subject of night operations divides itself into—

Night marches,
Night advances,
Night assaults,
Defence by night.

leabhar drill dóighláchaidh na héireann

(An Leanmhaint).



DRILL.

ullamhaighidh chum chomhrtaighte.

"Dineochaidh" na fir agus coimeádfaidh na braid fuar dineach i gcoinnidh a láimh.

ullamhaighidh—leagtar an chor chlé tuairim 10 n-órlach i leachtaoibh amach. Leigtear ríor na braid faid a haghaidh an dá láimh. Cuirtear chann an bhraid deir thearna an chinn eile agus larmuich de.

TOS-NAIGHIDH—A, B, Jrl.

Searaigeadh an comhrtóir dineach ar aghaidh an duine nó an rtáirliúin go mbeidh sé ag cur teachtaireachta chuige.

Ná leigeadh sé dor na bhrataibh dul ró-fhada riar.

Ná leigeadh sé dóibh beith ag clúdach a chéile le linn Ó nó T nó W nó an "comhrtha uimhreach" do dheunamh.

Caradh sé timcheall ar a chrománaibh le linn comhrtaí mar N, O, X, do dheunamh, agus bíodh sé aghaidh ar aghaidh leis an léighteoir i gcomhnuidhe.

Ní beag 20 litir do dheunamh in aon nómat amháin.

Nuair a bheidh sé chum teachtaireacht do chur go dtí léighteoir deineadh sé J, ag corraighe na mbrat le caoil a dá láimh do charadh. Deunfaidh an leighteoir J mar fhreagra air act gan na brait do chorruighe.

Tarléir gach focail do dheunamh cuirtear na brait mar a bhíonn aca tarléir "ullmhaighte," act ná deuntar ran tarléir gach leithe.

Ná corraigtear na brait gan ghábadh. Cuir i gcár, má bíthear chum R do dheunamh tarléir B do dheunamh coimeádtar an brat ag B go mbeidh R chríochnaighte.

Ag comhrtughadh do dhuine, bádh cheart dó duine éigin do bheith aige chum na teachtaireachta do léighearn amach dó chomhrtaidh dineach agus ir féidir dó í chomhrtughadh. Ag léigeann teachtaireacht do chomhrtóir, bíodh duine éigin aige chum na teachtaireachta chur ríor ar fháireur. Tarléir teachtaireacht do léighearn ra cheart dó cuireadh sé an méid rin in úil le "T" na haibhgíoire Morraige. Muna dtuigidh sé an teachtaireacht fanadh sé gan aon chomhrtha deunamh go dtí go gcuirfear an teachtaireacht chuige arís.

I ndeireadh gach teachtaireachta dá gcuirfidh sé uaidh deineadh sé V, e, ar a chéile. Má bíonn an glacadóir cinnte den teachtaireacht do bheith ra cheart aige deunfaidh sé R. D.

na huimhreacha.

A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, E=5, F=6, G=7, H=8, I=9, K=0.

FOR NEW COMPANIES

Being letters of advice written by a Volunteer officer as a help towards the formation and training of new Companies.

LETTER I.

A Chara,

Yours is not the only parish just at present where the young men have to think straight, are beginning to talk straight, and want to begin to act straight. Now, thinking and talking are all very well in their way, but the sooner you get down to actual work the better. Lose no time in speech-making but get your men together—be the number large or small—and begin training. The first thing you must do is to form your little company into sections of anything from 10 to 25 men under section commanders, who will be personally responsible for the attendance and training of all men in their sections. I think even if you can only muster 40 men it is a good plan to form 4 sections of 10 men each, leaving it to the section leaders to recruit up to standard.

If you can get a hall or house of sufficient size you should meet for indoor work one night every week, and for outdoor work every second Sunday. With regard to the training I think most of your men went through any amount of close order drill in the old days, so it will not be necessary to spend any time at that. Give them a run over it as quickly as you can and get on as soon as possible to the more important parts of the work. You must vary the indoor work in order to keep the men's interest up. In addition to drill, Bayonet and pike fighting, and signalling, you can have elementary talks about military subjects—the theory of musketry, hedge-fighting, attack and defence, local positions, etc.—and if desired you can have physical drill, gymnastics, boxing, singlesticks, and so on.

But the indoor work is, of course, not half as important as the field work. It is only in the open that the principles of scouting and reconnaisance can ever be learnt, and perfection in this branch is absolutely essential to a force like ours. Every second Sunday, then, arrange a small manœuvre, either an attack and defence, or a delaying action, or, simpler still, a despatch-carrying game or a raid by three or four on some position

strongly held by the rest of the Company. In these manœuvres insist on the men taking cover and keeping cover perfectly, and if you do this you will advance very rapidly towards efficiency.

You certainly ought have at least a quarter of your force mounted on bicycles. They will help you to keep proper communication with the other neighbouring companies and with Headquarters and, in addition, if well trained, will increase by 50 per cent. the efficiency of your Company.

Unlike our city Volunteers, your men are all good walkers and tough, so that they will not require as much practice in route marching. If you march three or four miles do some field work and march back again you will have done fairly well.

On the Sundays that you do not have field work you ought to get the men together after last Mass for range practice, and it would be at some convenient time like that, that your committee (consisting of company commander and section commanders) could meet and make arrangements for the next week's work.

Above all, make sure that in all your work you consider local conditions. I can do no more than show you the general lines on which training should proceed. I shall deal further and in more detail with the matter next week. Till then, go n-eirghe leat.

The Dublin Brigade

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 6th, 1916.

1. All classes as usual.
2. Lectures for Junior Officers on Wednesday and Saturday at 8 p.m. All Officers of the Dublin Brigade will attend on Saturday the 5th February.
3. Inspection of 5th Batt. by Brigade Commandant at Swords on Sunday at 12 noon.

E. DE VALERA,
Brigade Adjutant.

GHOSTS AND PENNY LIVES.

Belfast, 29th Jan., 1916.

TO THE EDITOR.

A Chara,—You will, I feel sure, be gratified to learn that I have arranged with P. H. Pearse to supply four Penny Lives, that is, short studies of Tone, Davis, Lalor and Mitchel, which will appear in rapid succession as "Tracts for the Times." P. H. Pearse has written an amazingly good tract called "Ghosts," which will be issued shortly. And as he says himself, his Ghosts will be hard to lay! After "Ghosts" has appeared, the "Penny Life of Tone" will be published. As this matter is one of national interest, I am venturing to claim a few lines in your valuable paper.—Mise do Chara,

A. NEWMAN,
Editor of "Tracts for the Times."

IRISH HISTORY LECTURES.
6th February, 1916—"The Bruce Invasion."
Art Ó Griobta
ADMISSION THREEPENCE.

NA FIANNA EIREANN

MAP READING (continued).

The Pole Star may be said to be fixed due north on the meridian. It is not situated exactly at the North Pole, but it is never more than one and a half degrees distant. The Pole Star may be found by means of the very conspicuous constellation known as the Great Bear (Ursa Major), or, as it is more often called in this country, the Plough. This constellation contains seven very bright stars and these are arranged as shown in the lower portion of Fig. 1. Four of the stars seem to

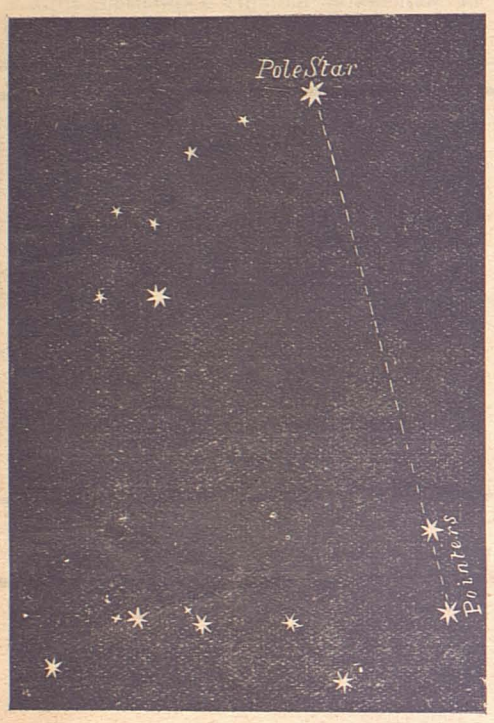


Fig. 1.

form an irregular square, while the other three are arranged in a curved line extending from one of the corners of the square, and are sometimes referred to as the tail of the Bear. The two stars at the head are called "the Pointers" because, if a straight line be drawn so as to join them and then be extended to about five times its own length it will almost pass through the Pole Star, which is the star at the tip of the tail of the Little Bear (Ursa Minor). With the exception of the Pole Star, the stars of the Little Bear, which form almost the same shape as the Plough, are not nearly so brilliant and are therefore not so easily seen with the naked eye.

Hill Features.

There are several methods used to represent hill features:—

(1) By Contours.—Contours are imaginary lines running round a hill at the same level all the way round; each contour represents a fixed rise or fall of a certain number of feet.

(2.) By Hachures.—Hachures are short disconnected strokes of the pen, by which the shading of hill features may be effected; the strokes are drawn directly down from the slopes.

(3) By Shading.—The highest levels are shown darkest, the next in height less dark, and so on.

(4) By Spot Levels.—The height of certain points on the map are marked in figures.

On military maps and field sketches hills are represented by contours. Contours enable us to determine the height of any particular spot on the map; they show us the shape of the hillsides, whether concave or convex, in section, and indicate gentle or steep slopes.

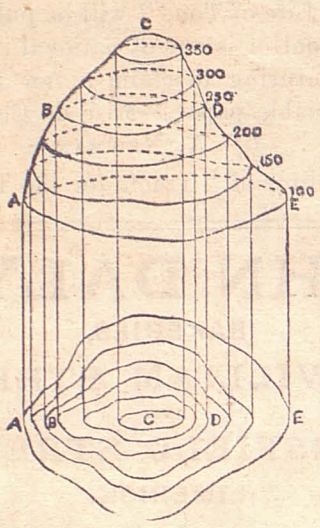


Fig. 2.

The Verticle Interval (V. I.).

The difference in height between two adjacent contours is always a fixed number of feet, which is called the vertical interval. The V. I. should be stated on every map. For instance, in Fig. 2 the V. I. is 50 feet. Therefore the distance between A and C being 250 feet, is shown by five contours. The most convenient V. I. for field sketching is 20 feet.

Slopes.

The different kind of slopes are termed uniform, concave, or convex.

(1) Uniform Slope.—When the contours are at equal intervals apart the slope is uniform. When the contours are close together the slope is steep, and when wide apart the slope is gentle.

(2) Concave Slope.—A slope is concave when it passes over successive contours of which the lower are wide apart (Fig 2, line C to E) and the upper close together (line C to D).

(3) Convex Slope.—A slope is convex when it passes over successive contours, of which the lower are close together (Fig. 2, line A to B) and the upper are wide apart (line B to C).

You will readily understand from the foregoing that when the line of sight between any two points of a slope is open (i.e., when one point is visible from the other) the slope is concave; and when the line of sight is interrupted (i.e., when one point is not visible from the other) the slope is convex.

Padraic O Riain.

[Note.—In last week's notes the diagrams were misplaced in error. The conventional sign to show the magnetic variation should have been Fig. 1, and Fig. 2 should appear at the end of the second paragraph.]

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

THE

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 62 (New Series). SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12th, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

Dr. Starkie and others have lent themselves to be the mouthpieces of a twofold accusation against "the Irish Volunteers under the committee presided over by Mr. MacNeill." One of our crimes has been: "hostility to the Government of the country"; the other, "hostility to recruitment for the forces of the Crown." Hostility to the present form of the Government of Ireland is the attitude of every honest supporter of Ireland's claim to self-government. The Government of Ireland is the cause of disaffection towards the Government of Ireland, and is at present causing more and more disaffection towards itself and laying the foundation for more solid disaffection than it has encountered since it was compelled to reform its Land Laws against Ireland.

* * *

The other crime is that of "acting in a manner prejudicial to recruitment for the forces of the Crown." Here again, it it easy to show that the conduct of those engaged in advocating recruitment, some of them at handsome salaries, has been the most powerful anti-recruiting agency that could be devised. Poor men have been heavily fined and imprisoned for such offences against recruiting as the singing of "God Save Ireland," while a swarm of incompetents have been paid large sums for turning the Government's recruiting campaign into a public laughing stock by their ridiculous oratory. This was admitted some months ago by the "authorities" and Mr. Redmond, and we were told that Mr. Redmond would institute a better method, and that the Viceroy would take charge.

* * *

It is very unwise for poor men to get sent to jail for doing what Mr. Redmond can do far better. I am not referring to the crusade of factious vituperation carried on under Mr. Redmond's auspices by Mr. Redmond's lieutenant, though not King George's lieutenant or even private—Mr. Tom O'Donnell, M.P.—a hopeless crusade of political faction under the pretence of recruiting for the British Army. I refer to the new and improved methods, introduced by Mr. Redmond himself. The English Viceroy at Galway last week had the satisfaction of listening to an Irish political leader who stood beside him and said that everybody in Ireland who does not dance to the tunes of the English Government gramophone is "contemptible." There was once a fox who said that grapes were contemptible, but he didn't think so. Mr. Redmond's "contemptible" will be taken as a fresh watchword of faction and will be put through all the cases and numbers and degrees of comparison and words and tenses by the minor apostles of the new national unity. It is a proud achievement for an Irish political leader to pour contempt on Irishmen—or rather to try to do so—in the presence of the representative of the English Government in Ireland. Only for that aspect of the thing—and it is a nasty aspect—Mr. Redmond's contempt would be food for laughter. It is as if a man up to his neck in a bog was to shout "contemptible" against men on the firm roadway. It will not bring the Viceroy a single recruit.

* * *

But the watchword of faction did not exhaust Mr. Redmond's demonstration of the new methods. He wound up his speech by the extraordinary declaration that, if recruiting does not come up to the standard set up for Ireland, then Ireland will be unworthy of self-government. That is to say, if Mr. Redmond's new policy proves a failure, he declares himself ready to become a Unionist. No other meaning can be taken out of the Galway pronouncement. It is only the logical and natural fulfilment of the Sharp Curve. But it will not bring the Viceroy a single recruit.

* * *

We know that recruiting in England does not come up to the Government standard, and so compulsion had to be adopted. Possibly Mr. Redmond understands that compulsion means the end of popular self-government in England. At all events the British Democracy has now learned, on Mr. Redmond's authority, that it has proved itself unworthy of self-government.

* * *

And this standard set up for Ireland—who has set it up, and upon what foundotion? Mr. Asquith says we are a Free People, and Mr. Redmond claims the support of everybody in Ireland who is not contemptible. Has the Free People set up the standard? Has it been consulted about the standard? Have Mr. Redmond's followers been consulted? How was the standard arrived at? This was not explained in Galway. Mr. Birrell "made no bones about it." Apparently he was tired listening to the other bone-makers and their pleas, so "he would make no bones about it, he just wanted men." Mr. Birrell can be humorous, even in the present state of Europe. He must enjoy the grand plea which appeals so strongly to his humorous colleagues and political allies, and to the humour-forsaken "Irish Times"—the plea that "Ireland will be disgraced if the gaps in Irish Regiments have to be filled up with Englishmen and Scotchmen." From this plea two conclusions follow. The more gaps and the bigger gaps are made in those regiments, the more effectually will Ireland be disgraced. The other conclusion is equally plain. Every English or Scotch regiment which contains Irishmen is a disgraced regiment, a disgrace to England or Scotland. The new methods thus afford a double proof that Great Britain has forfeited all claim to self-government.

* * *

In September, 1914, and for several months afterwards, Mr. Redmond kept proclaiming that he had actually won Home Rule for Ireland. Quite recently Mr. Dillon repeated the claim, said that the Home Rule Act was better than Grattan's Parliament, and asked, "Could King George forego his signature?" Those who dared to doubt that we were already in enjoyment of Home Rule, among them the Bishop of Limerick, were declared by Mr. Redmond to be Mrs. Gummidges. Now they have the consolation or the pang of reading in Mr. Redmond's Galway speech that Mr. Redmond himself is a Mrs. Gummidge. So far from having Home Rule, we are now told that, as things stand, we are not worthy of Home Rule. As a compensation, however, we have Eight Millions a year of additional taxation—which, if it gets time, will deprive County Galway and the rest of Ireland, Ulster included, of the present surplus of population. This topic is out of order for the great

men who hold other Irishmen in contempt.

* * *

If this is the New Model for Recruitment, the censured and repudiated orators of earlier days have a grievance. It may be said that their lurid style had a better chance than the hard reasoning of the New Method with a thick-witted Irish audience. And how are we to contend with the "Irish Times," which sets itself the very next day to belittle the Galway effort, and goes so far as to say that their is no likelihood of a German invasion of Ireland, at the very time when Sergeant-Major Miles Gloriosus the Slasher O'Rahilly is trying to make the blood run cold in Lord Lansdowne's unransomed tenants by telling them that what the Germans really want is to become farmers in Kerry.

* * *

The Dublin Port and Docks Board is complaining that, instead of business as usual, the commerce and business of Dublin is undergoing a sort of blockade at present. Can the Board not rise to the True Empire Patriotism of Mr. Birrell and get rid of its narrow local aims? Lord Wimborne does not seem sure of the value of Mr. Birrell's prescription. He congratulated University College, Galway, on its cultivation of the Irish language, literature and history. Perhaps that was what Mr. Birrell called "making bones."

* * *

Now as I am on Recruitment, let me say plainly that if any Irishman is convinced that he will serve Ireland by becoming a British soldier, and if he acts on that conviction, he is a patriotic and a brave man. If any Irishman thinks sincerely that Mr. Redmond is entitled to be the keeper of his political conscience, and that he serves Ireland by following Mr. Redmond's advice without reserve, and if for that reason he becomes a British soldier, he is a brave man. If Lord Wimborne, Mr. Redmond and Mr. Birrell can convince Irish audiences on these points by plain words that the people can understand, without "making bones of the matter," without wandering into arguments that are transparent humbug to any body of Irishmen, then they may succeed in recruiting all the surplus male population of military age in Ireland.

* * *

During the decade 1901-1911, the number of persons engaged in industrial non-agricultural pursuits in Ireland decreased at the average rate of 2,650 a year, and a whole host of writers and talkers of a certain school assured the world that a new era of prosperity for Ireland had begun.

* * *

Charged with the "crime" of being in possession of explosives and other "munitions," Mr. Alastair MacCabe was acquitted last week by a Dublin jury, though the facts were not contradicted in evidence. Sir Edward Carson is not a member of the Government which sought to obtain a conviction for this "crime"; but after Sir Edward Carson had laid down as a maxim of public conduct that "there are illegalities which are not crimes," he was made a Cabinet Minister and chief legal adviser to the Crown. The Dublin jury has acted as a London jury acted on a celebrated occasion in English history, the acquittal of the seven bishops in 1688, when King James in his camp at Hounslow heard the verdict cheered by his own army. There were cheers in the Dublin court when Mr. MacCabe's acquittal was announced, but I am told by one who was present that the cheers were followed by an explosion in the court itself—the whole crowded court, with the solitary exception of the judge, and not excepting the police, broke into laughter. That was the public verdict on the administration of the Defence of the Realm Act in Ireland.

* * *

I have been asked who is Mr. Whitty? My only information on the subject is derived from daily newspapers, which are now chiefly remarkable for the amount of information they are not permitted to publish. However, the Censor has shown no objection, in the public interest, to the statement in the papers that Mr. Whitty is a nephew of Mr. Dick Hazleton, and that he has been adopted by a Convention as parliamentary candidate for North Louth. His Uncle, at Mr. Redmond's instance, wrote to the "Freeman's Journal" early in 1914 condemning and denouncing the Volunteer movement root and branch. Then came the first surrender on the Ulster question, and after that, with the approval of the "Westminster Gazette," speaking for the Liberal Government, Mr. Redmond decided to take charge of the Irish Volunteers. A few months later, Mr. Redmond declared his objection to Nobodies. From this it may be inferred that Mr. Whitty, not being objectionable, is not a Nobody and that there is really such a person, though the thanks for his selection were tendered to the Convention, not by Mr. Whitty, but by Mr. Whitty's Uncle who, it must be said, rather deepened the mystery by mixing his thanks on behalf of his alleged Nephew with a lecture to the Convention on the suitability of Nobodies for membership of the Imperial Parliament at the present juncture. The Uncle is a young man, quite young enough to save Ireland from disgrace by filling a gap. Presumably, therefore, the Nephew is also young enough to fill a gap. If he is chosen to fill the Gap of the North, it proves that he is one of the young men who can be spared, whose work is not absolutely essential in any other capacity to the welfare of the country. It also proves that the Gap of the North has more urgent need of a Nephew to fill it than any of those other gaps that will be a disgrace to Ireland if they are left to be filled up out of English and Scotch regiments which are no disgrace to England and Scotland when their gaps are filled with Irishmen. It would be like the "Irish Times" to suggest that there are in Listowel seven Old and Tired Nationalists, to any one of whom it would be a rejuvenation and a rest to fill the gap in North Louth at £400 a year, at a time when even the addition of Eight Millions a year to the taxation of Ireland does not make it necessary or desirable to speak, act, or vote with the Irish Parliamentary Party at Westminster. If we may believe the daily papers, during this time of war, Mr. Whitty, who is ready to do his bitty in North Louth or at home for North Louth and £400 a year, comes from even farther south than Listowel, and, the Uncle being young and fresh, it is hardly likely that the Nephew belongs to the O.T.C., the Old and Tired Contingent. There is no doubt that by electing the Nephew to £400 a year and thus, so to speak, keeping the money in the family, North Louth might discover a new way to pay old debts. In June, 1914, the Irish public were informed by manifesto that "tried (not tired) and experienced men representative of the country" were a "sine qua non" for the proper management of the Irish Volunteers—an experiment which has had thorough trial under the direction of its inventor since that time. The Irish Parliamentary Party was to have the management of the managers. Hence we must believe that anyone selected to fill a gap in the Party must be tried and experienced and representative of the country in a superlative degree, and it would be nothing short of a slap in the face and a stab in the back at the same time to suggest that Mr. Hazleton's Nephew is not highly tried, highly experienced, and highly representative of the country. It is a pleasure to be able to add this information to the extremely brief biographical particulars to which the exigencies of an Imperial crisis have restricted the Press of Ireland.

* * *

The partiality of our veteran statesmen for young and untired politicians is a noteworthy feature of their later policy. Their splendid enterprise in this direction has no doubt been carefully calculated to capture the imagination of Young Ireland, and must be regarded as one more manifestation of that farseeing astuteness which has crowned "the labours of forty years" by placing the Home Rule Bill on the Statute Book and assuring the Irish people that they never were really worthy of Home Rule until now and are not even worthy of it yet. And to think of it, that the very one we regarded as the young Endymion of our Latmian assembly will be Uncle Richard to the next recruit—it is enough to make Mr. Redmond realise himself in the rôle of Rip Van Winkle. We look around to catch the captivated gaze of the youth of Ireland, and we find their faces, and the older faces, too, shaking with laughter at Mr. Birrell's latest effort to teach us the new and true patriotism. There will be less laughing when the effect of the new taxes begins to be felt.

EOIN MAC NEILL.

Hedge-Fighting for Small Units

SMALL ATTACKS.

The difficulties lying in the way of attacks in force across close country have not the same force in case of attacks by small units. The value of such small enterprises cannot be over-estimated: they offer golden opportunities to enterprising subordinate commanders, and frequently pave the way for decisive advances at other points. The smaller the force the easier it is to maintain control over it and have the men fully in hand: and, secondly, the easier it is to obtain concealment. In peace time it is necessary to have the N.C.O.'s and men properly trained in moving across country: this will mean that the commander of the Section has a quick eye to take in the details of a piece of country: he can spot the best hidden way, the easiest way in, the easiest way out, the shortest cut, whether he can hide all his force in such a depression or only half. Nothing but constant practice will enable him to seize these details. Similarly his men must be flexible and intelligent, and capable of changing formation and manner of advance in an instant.

One very likely method of advance is in single file along the line of hedges. When an advance along one side of a fence becomes impossible for fear of being observed, it may be possible to break through the hedge to the other side and gain further ground in security. The process may be repeated—several advances being made on alternate sides of the hedge. When the men are moving in single file it will sometimes be necessary to extend and open fire. The most profitable way might be to invert the order of the men from head to rear, the first man dropping down and firing, the second passing him to the required interval, dropping down and also opening fire, and so on. The men have thus a fixed point to extend from, open fire sooner, and successively cover the advance of the rest.

FORMATIONS.

In large fields it will often be only possible to advance in thin lines with the men about 8 or 10 paces apart in a loose flexible order. In this formation it will be possible to pass over ground swept by pretty heavy fire of infantry or machine-guns without suffering very serious losses. A case in which this formation might prove very advantageous would be where it had developed into a race between the two sides as to who should be the first to seize a formidable hedge or similar line.

Only in that or similar cases would a loose formation be desirable. The aim should be rather to hold the men closely concentrated in small bodies under good control.

SUPPORTS.

A large proportion of the force should be kept out of the fight in attack or defence. The element of surprise would be very prevalent in the close fighting; and this would mean that strong forces should be kept in hand to deliver counter-attacks at the most effective time and direction.

As long as the advance progresses supports should be held back. If they gradually become merged in the fighting line, it will be necessary to collect small bodies of men to form fresh supports: these may be formed from stragglers or isolated details. Groups of this kind under control may be made to intervene with great effect either to parry a local counter-attack, or to make one, or to serve as rallying points.

Supports should be brought up as close as possible to the firing line and measures must be taken ahead to bring them regularly into action. This entails formations making it possible to engage them speedily. Otherwise a sudden success may be allowed to slip by unutilised and be nullified by an enemy counter-stroke.

NOTES ON FOOD

Pemmican. This was originally a North American Indian preparation only, but it was introduced into the British Navy victualling yards in order to supply arctic expeditions with an easily-preserved food, containing the largest amount of nutriment in the smallest space. As made by the Indians, it consists of the lean portions of venison dried in the sun, or wind, and then pounded into a paste and tightly pressed into cakes; sometimes a few fruits of Amelanchier ovata are added to improve the flavour. It will keep for a very long time uninjured. That made for the arctic voyagers was chiefly of beef. In making Pemmican it is necessary to remove the fat completely.

Corned or Salted Beef is made by soaking the lean parts in a pickle made of salt, saltpetre, and a little brown sugar. Smoked beef is first cured in pickle, like corned beef, and then smoked over a wood fire. Beef cut into thin slices or strips and dried in the sun is called jerked beef.

Maconochie's Patent Army Ration may be taken as a typical meat and vegetable ration. It consists of ¾-lb meat and ½-lb. vegetables, and gravy, put up in a convenient sized tin. Gross weight, 1 lb. 13 ozs. It may be eaten hot or cold, but is far more palatable when heated than when cold. To cook, the whole tin may be immersed in a camp kettle full of water and boiled for a quarter of an hour, or the tin can be placed on an ordinary camp fire for ten minutes, or just sufficiently long to permit of the contents being heated through. Another method is to open the tin and make the contents into stew or soup. This ration is equivalent to one ration of meat and vegetables.

NIGHT OPERATIONS

3.—NIGHT MARCHES.

RECONNAISSANCE. As already stated, the route should be carefully reconnoitred both by **day** and by **night,** and important landmarks, cross-roads, etc., noted.

PRELIMINARIES. (1.) **Local guides** should be procured, friendly, if possible, or else precautions should be taken. (2.) The **outposts** should not be withdrawn till the last possible moment, owing to the necessity for secrecy. It would be best to leave them in position till daylight, when they can hurry after the column. **Camp fires** should be left burning with the same object. (3.) Precautions against **noise** should be taken. Vehicles should be prevented from rattling, etc.

PROTECTION. Small advanced and rearguards, consisting of **infantry** (unless the whole force is mounted) will be appointed. Small patrols well trained in night work appear to be the best protection for the flanks. **Pioneers** should accompany the advanced guard if obstacles are expected. All ranks should be informed in advance what they are to do in case of **surprise.**

OTHER RULES. (1.) Commanders of units should have **fixed places** in the column and should stay there.

(2.) The distances between units should be omitted.

(3.) The protective troops should be **close** to the main body, and kept well in touch by **connecting files.**

(4.) **Rifles should not be loaded,** but magazines should be charged. Men with single shot rifles should keep a cartridge handy for immediate use. **No firing** to take place without orders.

(5.) **Absolute silence** must be maintained, and no smoking or lights without permission from the G.O.C.

(6.) The pace must be uniform. A Volunteer Brigade will not do more than 2½ miles an hour.

(7.) Hours and periods of **halts** must be arranged beforehand. Units must close up any lost intervals before halting. Men may lie down when halted, but must not leave their ranks.

(This subject will be continued.)

"IRISH CITIZEN" CONCERT.

A Concert and Dramatic Entertainment of much interest will be held on Sunday, February 20th, at 8 p.m., in Foresters' Hall, 41 Parnell Square. Mr. Sheehy Skeffington's play, "The Prodigal Daughter," will be produced by a first-class caste, including members of both the Abbey and the Hardwicke Street companies. The musical part of the programme will be arranged by Mr. Gerard Crofts, and many other distinguished and popular artistes will take part. Further details will appear next week. Tickets, 2/- and 1/-, can now be had at 34 Westmoreland Street. The proceeds will be devoted to the "Irish Citizen" Fund.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comaṁle Ġnóṫa Féinne Fáil ina nDúnport tráṫnóna D. Céadaoin an dara lá de'n mí so agus an Ceann Caṫa Pádraic Mac Piarais ina ċaṫaoirleaċ orṫa

Do fríoṫ tuarargbála ar na Cúrsaíḃ Oileaṁna atá ar siubal i gConnṫaeṫib na Gaillimḣe agus Corcaiġe Do bíoṫar lántrárta leis na tuarargbálaiḃ sin.

Do sinneaḋ a lán oibre naċ luaiḋteas annso.

Dúnport na Féinne,
Áṫ Cliaṫ, 2 Feaḃ., 1916.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, 2nd inst., Commandant P. H. Pearse in the chair.

Detailed reports were received on the Training Courses which have been in progress in Counties Galway and Cork, which the Executive regarded as highly satisfactory.

A large amount of routine and other business was transacted.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson St.,
Dublin, 2nd Feb., 1916.

Notes from Headquarters

RIGHT LINES.

Last week Headquarters recommended what it considers the right lines of work, or at all events the most important and pressing lines of work, to Company and higher commanders. They are in brief:

1. Target Practice.
2. Scouting; Use of Country.
3. Marching Protection.
4. Mobilisation Schemes.

No. 4 should perhaps come first in order, for if one cannot get one's Company or Battalion out, with all its equipment, when one wants it, good training will go for nothing. **No commander of a unit is to rest satisfied until he has an adequate mobilisation scheme in working order.** Remember that mobilisation does not merely mean getting your men together. It means **making your unit available for service with the maximum number of its men and with all its equipment.** And this must be done **in the minimum of time.**

NEXT.

Next in importance—Headquarters' places:

5. Bayonet (or Pike) Exercise.
6. Organisation of Transport and Supply.

No branch of Volunteer training and organisation is to be neglected, but we insist upon these six as the things which need urgent and earnest and continuous attention.

METHOD.

In each branch a sound method of work should be thought out and adhered to. Take Musketry. Your instruction to your men will follow these general lines:

1. Demonstration.
2. Explanation.
3. Imitation.
4. Examination.

You will pay particular attention to:

1. Firing Position.
2. Holding Rifle.
3. Sighting.
4. Pressing Trigger.

You will reduce your instruction under each head as far as possible to a series of three or four simple directions, which may often be summed up in three or four memoric words or phrases. Thus, as to Firing Position, you can say that the essentials are:

1. View of Target.
2. Control of Weapon.
3. Cover (if possible).
4. Comfort (if possible).

And, as to Sighting:

1. Sights Upright.
2. Foresight Central.
3. Full Sight.
4. Six o'clock Aim.

Every officer and instructor should draw up for himself a series of such memorics covering the various branches in which he has to impart or superintend instruction. He could carry it all with him in a pocket-book.

A RESERVE.

Headquarters hopes that everywhere a Volunteer Reserve is being created. By a Reserve is meant not so much the Auxiliary as a body of active men who do not, at the moment, find it feasible to drill with the Volunteers but who would be willing to throw in their lot as combatants with the Volunteers in a crisis. Such a body might well reach hundreds where the Volunteers number scores, and thousands where they number hundreds.

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

The Pride of Veterans, with a Note on Bayonets and Triggers.

It is a common complaint among Volunteer officers that a number of their men, having attained to a certain degree of efficiency, are apt to drop off in their attendance at drills, apparently under the impression that they have nothing more to learn. A word or two from the Captains on the lines of what follows, spoken from time to time to their Companies, should be of some effect to check this tendency, for it is generally due to a lack of thought, not to any slackness or loss of enthusiasm.

* * *

In the first place it should be pointed out that to become an efficient private soldier should not be the ultimate aim of Volunteers. It seems to be rather a characteristic of Volunteers that they aim to be nothing higher than privates or else nothing lower than Field Marshals. Now there is a happy medium between the two. Nobody need be so humble as to fear he can never attain to so high a rank as that of Section Commander; nobody should be so proud as to scorn such a rank. Now the position of the Volunteers is such that they may at any moment become inundated with recruits who must be drilled and officered, so that every existing Volunteer will in all probability be some day forced into this exalted position. Therefore every perfect Private should aspire to rise, and set about doing so.

* * *

Secondly, they ought to pause and consider whether they are really perfect. In pre-Napoleonic days a soldier of ten years' service was considered a recruit. This was, of course, a hide-bound, exaggerated view, but it is certainly true that it takes years to make a soldier. And this, too, means years of continuous training, not Volunteer years of training, which means at best four to six hours a week of real work. The Volunteers have only been two of these "years" in existence.

* * *

Lastly, it should be remembered that perfection, once reached, cannot be maintained without constant practice. Field work, drill, shooting—especially shooting—will all suffer unless you keep at them continuously. To be a crack shot you must practice every day; to be a good shot you must practice regularly. Similarly with the other things. With the above three incentives put before them the proud ones ought easily to be induced to return to their duty.

* * *

Somebody who considers the avidity with which these columns are read to be useful for propagandist purposes, has asked me to grind an axe for him—or rather he asks me to get people to stop grinding their bayonets. He tells me that certain Volunteers, finding their bayonets inconveniently long, have set to work shortening them. I would ask them to hesitate about this. A little inconvenience will be compensated by the advantage of a gain in reach. Unless the weapon is extremely unwieldy it should not be shortened. If you find its length, when on your belt, makes it catch in your legs when you run, instead of shortening it tighten up your belt. You ought to have this tightened up, anyhow, for the sake of a soldierly appearance, and when it comes to a hand-to-hand scrap you will be only too pleased to have any extra reach you can get. I have ground my friend's axe as I promised. I can only hope that his fears were badly founded, for I have met with no evidence on this point myself.

* * *

I am reminded of one thing of which I have plenty of evidence. Many men, even those who otherwise take the greatest possible care of their rifles, put them away with the hammers cocked. This is, of course, a ruinous thing to do, but it is a detail which is easily forgotten. It would be advisable for Section Commanders, after a parade with rifles, to see that all of their men pull their triggers as a precaution. (Of course the muzzle of the rifle should preferably not point at anybody's heart at the moment. I have heard it said that more people have been killed by unloaded guns than by any other kind.) It will be observed that I have, as usual, shoved this task on to the shoulders of the Section Commanders. This is not out of malice. It is because they are the people I most rely on for doing things.

The Dublin Brigade

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING 13th FEBRUARY, 1916.

1. All Classes as usual.
2. Lectures for Junior Officers, Tuesday and Saturday, 8 p.m.

E. de Valera,
Brigade Adjt.

Cumann na mBan

We should like to remind Branches that the Executive has on hands a stock of metal badges, which are sent to Branches at 6s. a dozen. They are sold to individuals at 8d. each. We should also like to remind Branches that the flag-day, which we hope every Branch will be able to organise, has been instituted not merely for providing funds for the organisation, but also for propaganda purposes. The fact that the Cumann na mBan is not well known in some districts is all the more reason why their flag should be produced, so as to rouse curiosity and inquiry. And surely no Irishman, no matter how ignorant he may be of the "power-house" of Irish nationalism, can refuse to buy a beautiful green flag with a gun on it!

We are glad to be able to welcome two more new Branches—one in Galway University, which we expect will do much good throughout a large centre, and one in Ballinagh, Co. Cavan.

We have a very good report for the months of December and January from Athlone. They have started Drill and Signalling Practice, and the members attend regularly and are profiting much from the lessons. They have been getting together money, with much energy, to start a first aid class. Even in this matter the Secretary has been making fruitful preparations, having already distributed among the members First Aid Manuals, so that the question may not be foreign when the class starts. Each member has bought a Cumann na mBan metal badge. They intend to hold a flag-day as soon as can be arranged, and everything seems to be promising fair for the future. The Athlone Branch was only started some couple of months ago and, we hope, will be an incentive to energy and hard work for our other young Branches.

Leabhar Drille Dóighláchaidh na hÉireann

(An Leanmhaint).

An Aidhgitir Mhórsach.

Deuntar na leithreacha le dúradánaibh agus le "dearfeannaibh." Ní mór duit oifead aimsire do thógáil chum "dearf" do dheunamh agus tógann tú chum trí dúradáin do dheunamh agus aimsir "dearf" do beith idir na litheacha agat agus aimsir dá "dearf" idir na foclaibh.

Chum a fhoghluim cionnus aimsir chothrom do choimeád abair "idí" le linn gach dúradán do dheunamh agus abair "úmtí" go mall mhíghin le linn gach "dearf" do dheunamh agus bíodh béim an ghocha ar "úm" agat.

Feudfair na leithreacha do dheunamh le luarca fada agus le luarca gearra do bhaint a' bhrat, nó le feadaibh fada agus le feadaibh gearra, nó le rplanca fada roluir nó le rplanca gearra roluir ó lampa. Ir iomdha rlighe 'na bhfeudfair na comharthaí do dheunamh

Ag reo ríor na leithreacha :—

Gaedilg ar an mDeurla ran tuar:— Com-litheacha nó commbháithe, eidir-litheacha, litheacha gan aon com-litheacha aca nó aonaráin, uimheacha.

CHOSTS.

Mr. P. H. Pearse asks us to correct a slight misapprehension which may be caused by Mr. A. Newman's letter in our last issue. It has not been arranged that Mr. Pearse is to write short Lives of Tone, Davis, Lalor and Mitchel. He has written an examination of the Irish definition of freedom, divided into five chapters, an introductory one called "Ghosts," and four others which examine the definition as it has been made by each of the four writers named in succession. The five chapters will be published as pamphlets in the "Tracts for the Times" series, but they will not be in any sense Lives of the men whose teaching they examine.

FOR NEW COMPANIES

Being letters of advice written by a Volunteer Officer as a help in the formation and training of new Companies.

LETTER II.

A Chara,

It is hard to lay down any hard-and-fast programme of training for your men as, of course, local circumstances will have to be looked to, but I will give you a specimen syllabus of training, and I think by adopting some such programme, varied to suit yourselves, it ought to be possible in the short space of two or three months to bring your Company to a state of very high efficiency. The programme which follows is one actually carried out by a small Company here, which had been rather knocked about and whose training was rather scattered. So it was specially drawn up with the object of compressing into as short a time as possible, the ordinary year's work of a Company. A Company, of course, which has done no training could not get through the programme in this short space of time. But for partially-trained Companies, or as a kind of revision of a year's work for well-trained Companies, it is very suitable. It supposes one night per week and every alternate Sunday for field work .

1st Week.

1. Squad and Section Drill.
2. Manual of Arms.
3. Extended Order.
4. Short Lecture—Care of Arms.

(About 20 minutes allotted to each branch.)

Sunday—Range Practice.

2nd Week.

1. Section and Company Drill.
2. Firing Position and Bayonet Exercise.
3. Extension by Whistle and Signal.
4. Lecture—Musketry, Aiming, Loading and Firing.

Sunday—Elementary Skirmishing (about 2 hours' work).

3rd Week.

1. Company Drill and Manual of Arms.
2. Bayonet Exercise.
3. Infantry Formations v. Cavalry, Artillery, etc.
4. Lecture—The Company on the March, Advance, Rear, and Flank Guards.

Sunday—Range Practice.

4th Week.

1. Company Drill, Manual of Arms, Bayonet Exercise.
2. Firing Positions. Visual training, judging distances.
3. Extension :—Building up firing line by Skirmish lines.
4. Lecture—The Company at rest. Outpost and Sentry Work.

Sunday—Short Route March, with Advance, Rear, and Flank Guards, Dispatch run.

5TH WEEK.

1. Drill and Bayonet Exercise.
2. Fire Effect and Fire Direction.
3. Firing Line, Supports and Reserves.
4. Hedge-fighting in Ireland: kind of hedges and their use. Cover.

Sunday—Range Practice.

6TH WEEK.

1. Drill and Bayonet Exercise.
2. Fire Discipline and Fire Control.
3. Scouts, Outposts and Patrols.
4. Hedge-fighting: Preparing a Defensive Position.

Sunday—Simple manœuvre: attack and defence.

7TH WEEK.

1. Drill and Bayonet Exercise.
2. Arms and Ammunition: Inspection and Remarks.
3. Information: What to look for and how.
4. Hedge-fighting: Choice of ground, attack, defence and delaying action.

Sunday—Range Practice.

8TH WEEK.

1. Drill and Bayonet Exercise.
2. Weapons: Makeshift and otherwise.
3. Camps and Bivouacs: Selection of site, sanitation, etc.
4. Hedge-fighting: Shock tactics, ambushes, etc.

Sunday—Attempt at ambush of two-thirds of the Company by the remainder.

I shall explain this programme in greater detail next week.

GORGEI & THE HUNGARIAN ARMY

II.—OUTPOST SERVICE ON THE LEITHA.

In the headquarters at Parendorf a momentarily impending attack on the part of the enemy was every day talked of; and nevertheless the troops were dislocated in such a manner as even the leisurely routine of the service in time of peace would not have caused. Of many a body of men even the chief of the general staff could not tell whether they still existed, or where. Others of them, about whose distribution he gave the most detailed accounts, suddenly made their appearance in an opposite direction; their arrival having been preceded by very alarming reports from thence of the approach of some hostile corps.

I devoted all my attention to the accomplishment of those duties which devolved on me as commander of the outposts. My brigade consisted of five battalions of volunteer National Guards, a second edition of the local militia, augmented by firearms. These battalions, however, were already divided, like the regular ones, into companies, and provided with officers; but the latter were, with a few exceptions, almost wholly destitute of military knowledge.

I compelled them to employ the time of easy outpost service in that training of which they stood so much in need. This, of course, was not possible without the use of severe measures. These produced discontent, opposition. Frequent and urgent complaints of my despotic severity reached the headquarters; but meeting with no attention, were carried to the royal commissary Csányi. It was fortunate for me that Csányi was an old soldier, and knew how to estimate such complaints. There was nothing left for the poor malcontents but to bite the sour apple and learn to obey. So difficult was this that it cost many a man his life.

To accustom my brigade to the divers nerve-shaking aspects of war, I often caused the chain of videttes, as well as the camp behind Brusk to be thrown into alarm, particularly at night-time. I took advantage of every rumour about the enemy, however vague it might be, to make my troops believe that he was actually marching against us; and at such times sent out across the Leitha, on my own responsibility, small divisions as reconnoitring patrols and so forth. This latter experiment drew on me a severe reprimand from the headquarters.

Subsequent to this a council took place as to the advisability of marching in aid of the contemporary insurrection in Vienna. Kossuth, who was ignorant of the inefficient state of the army, thus addressed the Council:

"We must to the help of the inhabitants of Vienna! The honour of the nation demands it of us. And we can do it with an assurance of victory; because I bring to the brave army, which has but recently driven before it the fleeing enemy over the frontiers, 12,000 warriors —untried, indeed, but animated with patriotic ardour for the fight, and burning with desire to contend with their tried comrades for the laurel of the battle field. Yes, we will do it! We will advance! Our friends in Vienna are anxiously reckoning upon it! and the Hungarian has never abandoned his friend!"

Móga, Görgei's superior in command, drew attention to the indiscipline of the army and consequent inadvisability of an advance. After him Görgei himself spoke in a similar strain: "Neither is the solidarity between our fighting in self-defence and the insurrection in Vienna clear to me, nor do I know the intimate connection between the events at Vienna and those at Pesth. Nay, even about the naked facts only unvouched-for reports have occasionally reached me." He then proceeded to detail the military reasons against an offensive.

IRISH HISTORY LECTURES.

A lecture entitled "The Battle of Kinsale" will be delivered by Comdt. J. J. O'Connell (of Headquarters Staff I. V.), at 25 Parnell Square, on Sunday, February 13th, 1916, at 8.15 p.m.

Every Volunteer should make it his business to be present at this lecture. Admission Threepence.

NA FIANNA EIREANN

MAP READING (continued).

By the contours drawn on a map you are able to know the nature of the country it represents. If you are expert in map-reading the hills and valleys can be seen in the mind's eye as plainly as if you were on the spot. You can see that the slopes of one hill is so steep that it can only be climbed up slowly by men using their hands, and that manœuvres on such a slope is impossible; but that for your purpose hill number two is just as good and has a uniform slope. If, for instance, instead of reading a map, no map of any military value was available, and you were sent out to reconnoitre a piece of country contiguous to that of the enemy, a rough sketch map showing the contours (by form lines) of hills and their degrees of slope would be of great importance. I mention this here because I wish to impress upon the Fianna the importance of their getting a thorough grasp of contours. In order to prove to yourself that you really understand contours you should practice section-drawing. Section-drawing will also be useful if you were in doubt as regards one point in a section of the country being visible from another point. Signallers please note.

Sections.

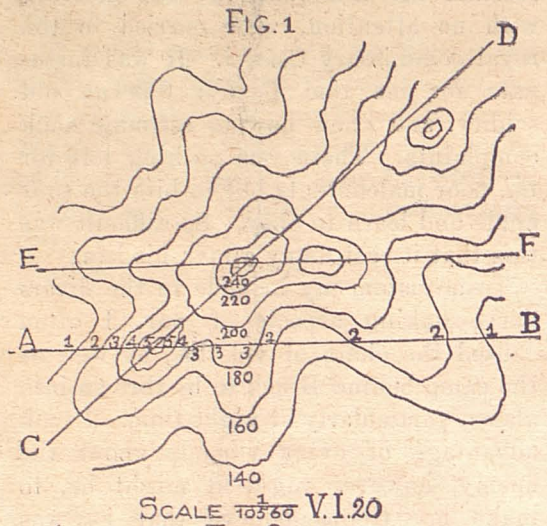
A section is a representation of the surface that would be exposed if a hill was cut through vertically along a given straight line.

It is usual to exaggerate the heights in drawing a section. To draw a true section, that is, to show the vertical heights on the same scale as that used for the horizontal distances is only possible in the case of a very large scale map. Take, for example, the scale of a 6-in. map, contoured at 20 ft. V. I. A measurement of 20 ft. would be represented by $\frac{1}{44}$ of an inch. To rule parallel lines on a section at this minute distance apart would be quite impossible to most scouts, and even if you did succeed, the heights would be so small in proportion to the distances that the slopes would not be sufficiently clear. In making a section heights are exaggerated six times, and it is generally stated that heights are to distances as 6 is to 1 (H : D :: 6 : 1).

How to Draw a Section.

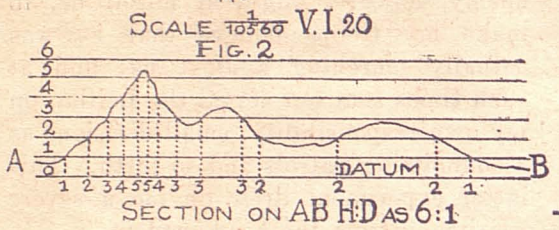
In Fig. 1 is shown the contours of a piece of hilly country, and you wish to know what the surface of the hills look like between the two points A and B. You will, therefore, draw a section on the line A B. The scale shown is 6 ins. to a mile, and the vertical interval is 20 ft.

FIG. 1



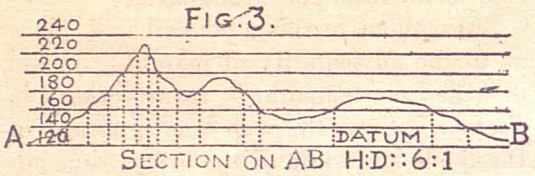
SCALE $\frac{1}{10560}$ V.I. 20

FIG. 2



SECTION ON AB H:D AS 6:1

FIG. 3.



SECTION ON AB H:D :: 6:1

If H : D :: 6 : 1, the vertical heights shown on yon section must be 120 ft. (i.e., 20 ft. multiplied by 6); 20 ft. at 6 inches to the mile will be represented by $\frac{3}{22}$ ins. (.13 ins.). So the section lines must be drawn .13 ins. apart. Now take a piece of paper and lay its edge exactly along the line on which the section is required and with a pencil tick off every contour cut by it, and number them, marking the lowest contour 1. Each time the same contour touches the line it takes the same number. Transfer these marks to the bottom line of your section, which is called the Datum, and on each of them erect a perpendicular line till it meets the section line bearing the corresponding number. Join the heights so found and you have your section (Fig. 2). In Fig 3 the actual heights of the contours are shown.

In order to test your ability draw a section on the line C D (V. I. 50 ft., scale $\frac{1}{21120}$) and on the line E F (V. I. 20 ft., $\frac{1}{10560}$).

It was found necessary to reduce the size of the original drawing of Fig. 1, 2 and 3 for a single column for this paper. You will therefore notice that the section lines are not exactly .13 ins. apart.

PADRAIC O RIAIN.

IRISH HISTORY LECTURES.
13th February, 1916—The Battle of Kinsale.
Cart Ó Conaill.
ADMISSION THREEPENCE.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

THE

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 63 (New Series). SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19th, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

In Great Britain the Defence of the Realm Act is a military precaution. In Ireland it is a political engine used by politicians for the persecution of those who are not their obsequious and humble servants. When I say that it is used for this purpose by politicians, I do not mean that the politicians who so use it are only the traditional enemies of our national rights and liberties. It is, of course, the Government and its subordinates who have the administration of the Act, but in their administration of it they have the full and active support of Mr. Redmond. Every Nationalist who suffers under the Act for his fidelity to Nationalist principle is persecuted by Mr. Redmond just as truly as if Mr. Redmond, having found Ireland "unworthy of Home Rule," was already Unionist Chief Secretary for the British Government in Ireland.

* * *

We may be told, we have been told, that the Irish Parliamentary Party, with Mr. Redmond in the chair, passed a resolution many months ago against the Government use of the Realm Act in Ireland. That resolution was never communicated to the Irish public. Was it communicated privately to the Government? If not, then it was communicated to nobody, and the passing of it was a hypocritical sham, with no more serious purpose than perhaps to quiet the uneasy minds of some members of the Party. If it was communicated to the Government, then the Government has treated the Irish Party and their resolution with supreme contempt. Why not? The Government has been taught by Mr. Redmond and are still being taught by him to hold himself in contempt. When he stands on a Government platform and expresses, or pretends to express, his contempt for Irish Nationalists, the Whigs and the Smugs are set chuckling in their dark corners. We can imagine what respect English statesmen must have for an Irish political leader who one day sends them a private resolution of remonstrance against "senseless prosecutions," and next day gives his name to a published statement declaring that there has been no interference with liberty, and that "only three or four" insignificant persons have been victimised, and that these persons were lucky not to have been shot. Mr. Redmond, in fact, has not been content with giving a general support to the Government's administration of the Realm Act. His published utterances have been so worded as to justify all that the Government has done, and to encourage it to go on doing more of the same, even though many of his supporters in Irish public bodies have condemned the action of the Government. It is clear, then, that Mr. Redmond is personally responsible for every act of political persecution committed by the "authorities" in Ireland under the pretence of the Realm Act. Every man imprisoned by the Government in this way is put in prison and kept in prison by Mr. John Redmond. Never before in Irish history was an Irish political leader intimidated and manœuvred into such a position. And this, we are expected to believe, is the wisdom and the grit which, when the fitting time arrives, will insist on the fulfilment of a treaty made by a Ministry which no longer exists to fulfil anything. We were solemnly assured in the early days of the war that the Government's policy was only suspended. There was to be a political truce just for a few months until the Allies got time to occupy Berlin. After that the Government would resume where it had left off, and all would be well. This was the great expectation held out to induce Mr. Redmond's followers to submit to the Sharp Curve. Do they still believe in this sort of farseeing statemanship?

* * *

We know, on evidence that has not been questioned, that at the beginning of the war British statesmen believed or professed to believe that the war would end in a few months with the rapid and complete triumph of the Allies. This was the last argument that compelled Mr. Redmond to subordinate Ireland's national rights and interests to the international aims of British statesmen, and to throw away the greatest and justest opportunity for the assertion and establishment of Ireland's national position that has come to any Irish leader since the days of Grattan. Mr. Redmond was deceived. That is the most that can be said for him. But gullibility is not a virtue in a political leader. Having been cornered into one mistake and having shown a facility for surrendering, he has been kept "moving on" ever since, until the other day he was compelled to stand beside the English governor of Ireland and declare that unless Ireland satisfies fresh and indefinite demands she will forfeit her right to national self-government—**a declaration which is in itself treason to Ireland in the last degree, a declaration which no Irishman under any circumstances has the right to make.**

* * *

Let us see what Lord Wimborne and Mr. Birrell are doing with the Realm Act, supported and encouraged by Mr. Redmond. Mr. MacSwiney, of Cork, Irish Volunteer officer and organiser, has been arrested without any charge and kept in gaol for weeks without any charge. (I here correct the statement that he was taken from his bed by the police in the dark hours of early morning. His house was surrounded by police about breakfast time.) While he lies in gaol without any sort of charge proffered against him, Mr. Redmond, in more bitter and pitiful durance, stands before the Viceroy in the presence of an Irish audience, and with a halter round his neck declares that Mr. MacSwiney is "contemptible," and that a nation of men like Mr. Mac Swiney is unworthy of selfgovernment. Mr. MacSwiney is a man without fear and without reproach, a man of cultivated talent, honourable and upright, modest and unassuming. As gentle as a child, he has thrown himself into the Volunteer movement at his country's call and has made himself a thoroughly capable and efficient officer. When the Government attempted to banish the Volunteer organisers from Ireland and imprisoned them for standing against the Government's pretension, the Volunteers answered by calling for double the number of organisers, and Mr. MacSwiney was among the first to come forward and offer his services. Now he lies in gaol until Mr. Redmond's masters can fake up some sort of presentable accusation against him and find some worthy tribunal to pronounce the predetermined sentence. At the same time and under similar circumstances, Mr. Thomas Kent, of Castle-

lyons, has been arrested and held a prisoner in the new Bastille.

* * *

Mr. Alastair MacCabe, of Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo, National Teacher and member of the Coisde Gnotha of the Gaelic League, was arrested, held for weeks without trial, then tried and acquitted by a Dublin jury, the charge against him being the "crime" of being in possession of warlike material—a "crime" of which no Irishman of any party is ashamed. Having failed to secure a conviction for this "crime," the Government puts Mr. MacCabe back to be tried at some future date for some other "crime," so that without proving anything against him they can keep him in jail for an indefinite period. Quite right, says the leader with the halter round his neck, Mr. MacCabe is only another Contemptible.

* * *

Mr. Claud Chevasse, a well-known Gaelic Leaguer, was arrested in Ballingeary. Nothing was alleged against him. He was questioned by a policeman. He answered in Irish. That was all. For this crime against the safety of the Realm, the obedient tribunal in Macroom ordered Mr. Chevasse to pay a fine and, since he refused to admit the right or justice of the proceedings by paying the fine, he was sent to gaol, and is now one of Mr. Redmond's contemptible prisoners.

* * *

Mr. John Galey, of Tralee, builders' clerk, an Irish Volunteer, was arrested some months ago on the charge of having used words prejudicial to recruitment. He was convicted and sentenced by the summary tribunal. He appealed, and his appeal was heard the other day by County Court Judge Drumgoole. There was only one witness to the words alleged to have been spoken by Mr. Galey, though the words, according to that witness, were spoken in the midst of a large crowd. This witness, a recruiting officer named Wilkinson, was a complete stranger to the country. When he heard the words to which he swore, he testified, he did not know who spoke them, but he afterwards heard and saw Mr. Galey speaking other words and **was able to identify his voice.** As an Irishman, I am of opinion that this outlander Wilkinson is far too smart to be a recruiting officer. A complete stranger who can hear two sentences uttered at two different times in the Kerry brogue in the middle of a Kerry crowd and can afterwards swear that the two were spoken by one and the same person is a swearer of no mean capacity. It so happened, however, that notwithstanding this solitary witness's powers of identification, the police first arrested the wrong man. But Mr. Birrell was just then busily engaged in collecting Voluminous Evidence for the purpose of showing the truth of what he had already said and instructed Dr. Starkie to say, and the police quite understood that evidence about language prejudicial to recruitment was not entitled to high marks unless the person accused was an Irish Volunteer. Accordingly, when Mr. Galey came along, the police let go the other man and arrested Mr. Galey, Irish Volunteer, and Recruiting Officer Wilkinson duly identified Mr. Galey as the man whose voice he knew so well, having never heard it until that day, if then. The entire case for Mr. Birrell and the True Empire Patriotism depended on the unsupported testimony of a stranger, a paid servant of the Government, as to the identification of a voice in a crowd. For the defence it was proved by several witnesses that on Wilkinson's complaint a man named Hanafin was first arrested, but that when Galey came along Hanafin was released and Galey was arrested instead—on the complaint of the same sure-swearing recruiting officer. Another witness for the defence was Sergeant Richard Dowling, of the Munster Fusiliers, at home from the war, where he had served for thirteen months, fighting in the battles of Mons, Ypres, and La Basse and gaining promotion for good conduct and gallantry. Sergeant Wilkinson, the Crown witness, is one of the gap-fillers in the same regiment, but it did not appear from the evidence that his valour had ever been tested except in the witness-box. Wilkinson admitted that there were other soldiers near him at the time of the alleged offence, that he had asked him if they had heard the words, and that they said no. Sergeant Dowling testified that he was along with McGaley at the time the words were alleged to have been spoken, and that the charge was unfounded. Judge Dromgoole and two magistrates confirmed the conviction. A third magistrate dissented. The sentence was three months' imprisonment. I repeat that the man is a fool who will compete with the Government, its haltered supporters, its tribunals, and its recruiting agents, in the business of making Recruitment unpopular in Ireland. The Crown Prosecutor in this case was Mr. D. M. Moriarty, who is also a Commissioner of National Education.

* * *

The part taken by Judge Dromgoole and the Commissioner of National Education in the great victory of Sergeant Wilkinson will add effect to the recruiting meeting at which, about the same time, the Judge and the Commissioner were the principal speakers, and Mr. Tom O'Donnell, representing Mr. Redmond, once more held up the banner of faction, and, under Government protection, denounced his fellow-countrymen. Mr. O'Donnell was applauded by some of the people present at this Meeting in Killarney, when he repeated the Galway gospel of his leader, and declared that, unless Irishmen adopted the new and true Empire patriotism, "Ireland would not get Home Rule and would not be worthy of Home Rule." No wonder the small boys in Killarney celebrated the occasion by singing "John Redmond's Party is mouldering to decay." The conditions under which Ireland is now entitled to Home Rule, according to Mr. Redmond and his lieutenants, are conditions which have been crammed down their throats by the recent Whigs. They are conditions which were never heard of until, after March, 1914, the Whigs discovered Mr. Redmond's capacity for surrender.

* * *

Mr. Coltsman, an old and tired Nationalist and Deputy Lieutenant, presided, and announced that "after 114 years of weary waiting (and some other experiences which he did not mention), Ireland has sprung into existence as a nation once more." The spasm of joy which followed this assurance took away the breath of the Killarney audience, and thus rendered them incapable of cheering. The chairman ended with an appeal to "the glorious memory of Fontenoy." Judge Dromgoole said that, "when a dog tasted blood, it could not be kept from killing again." That had no reference to Irish history. The Judge suggested that what the Germans were out for was farms in Kerry, and said that "if the British Empire went down," Lord Lansdowne's Kerry tenants would find "their titles to their lands would not be worth the paper they were written on." Strange to say, this remark was greeted with applause. "He supposed that in the old days, when Cromwell was coming to Ireland, some people said, Cromwell is a nice fellow, he wont touch us." Cromwell was a pioneer and is still a hero of pious English Liberalism. The Judge who sent an Irish Volunteer to gaol for three months on the unsupported and marvellous testimony of a paid recruiting agent, said "let them stick to what had been won and not let any one take it from them."

* * *

The Crown Solicitor and Commissioner of National Education said: "After a fight through the long ages, you have got your own Parliament, a free Parliament." No cheers. Mr. O'Donnell, M.P., afterwards contradicted the Commissioner of National Education, and said Ireland would not get Home Rule unless she fulfilled the new conditions. The contradiction is of no importance, for the Commissioner of National Education and the ex-National Teacher were able to draw exactly the same conclusion from the opposite statements. Sergeant-Major O'Rahilly, who was at the meeting, "took suddenly ill" at its close, in the Graham Hotel, Killarney, but recovered sufficiently to be able to reach the Imperial Hotel, Tralee, next day, and to write from that address on that day a long announcement of his illness for publication in the Kerry newspapers, at the same time thanking "the people of Killarney and district" for their hospitality.

* * *

Following up the Galway meeting, which was public, the Viceroy and Mr. Redmond attended a conference which, though held in the capital of Ireland, was not public. The representative character of the conference may be judged by reference to the list of names pub-

lished in the "Irish Times." Mr. Redmond, in his address, claimed the support of the people of Ireland and of the great majority of the Irish in America. As the people of Ireland and the Irish in America know how they stand, Mr. Redmond's information must be intended to strengthen his position with the Government by supplementing the notoriously unreliable intelligence which the Government obtains through official sources in Ireland and through the Foreign Office agents in America. Mr. Redmond also alluded, for the first time, to the burden of fresh taxation imposed on Ireland. He did not state, however, that the present taxation of Ireland amounts to more than one half of the entire value of the crops produced by Irish land; nor did he express any intention of demanding relief for Ireland from this intolerable and ruinous burden.

* * *

Among other gems of the new factionist oratory, Mr. Tom O'Donnell, M.P., is reported as having asked on more than one occasion at recruiting meetings if the Irish Volunteers were going to keep out the Germans with cabbage stalks. Mr. O'Donnell was elected to represent the demand of Kerry electors for the abolition of the Dublin Castle system of government in Ireland. The Irish Volunteers organised themselves for that purpose, and not for any imaginary campaign with cabbage stalks. Mr. O'Donnell is now a renegade from the cause which he was elected to represent, and he now represents the British Government in Ireland at a salary of £400, and in that capacity he now tells the electors of Kerry that "Ireland will not get Home Rule and will not be worthy of Home Rule" unless Ireland satisfies new and indefinite demands which were not heard of or dreamt of by the Kerry electors when they elected Mr. O'Donnell. The Irish Volunteers, on the other hand, remain true in every particular to the objects that were originally set before them and adopted by them, and it is because they have remained true and because Mr. O'Donnell has shifted his ground, not for the first time, that they are subjected to the continual insults of a person who, under the pretence and protection of Recruitment, goes around preaching faction.

* * *

I may, perhaps, have said too much about the conduct of Mr. Redmond and Mr. O'Donnell and the rest of the Wont-be-worthy-of-Home-Rule Party—too much in this sense, that whatever such men may do or say, or whatever Irish Unionists may do or say, we are not to be drawn into a faction fight among Irish people. Our national cause, like its adversary, is a continuity. Some of Mr. Redmond's political allies would not be sorry to see the policy they have forced on him leading to a general faction fight throughout Ireland. To waste indignation on Mr. Redmond would be to play their game. Therefore, without disclaiming the right of every Irish citizen to hold Irish-elected representatives to account for their stewardship, we must always remember that the main issue is not between us and them, but is between Ireland and those who are engaged in the attempt to withhold from Ireland her national rights and to swamp and drown, wit' their "watering and watering," the unconquered spirit of Irish nationality. Once more, and as often again as the need arises, let us be warned not to mistake the tools for the burglar.

EOIN MAC NEILL.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR A VOLUNTEER.

On Sunday, 6th inst., there was a memorial service for the late Volunteer T. W. Fagan, "E" Coy., 4th Batt., in the Church of the Annunciation, Rathfarnham. Mass was celebrated by the Very Rev. Canon O'Keeffe, P.P. The whole of the 4th Batt. was present in the Church, with full equipment, and the singing of hymns by the men during Mass was very impressive. Two members of "E" Coy. served the Mass in Volunteer uniform.

After the Mass the whole Battalion took part in a forced march to Clondalkin via Tallaght, returning via Terenure. The march was done at the rate of over 4½ miles an hour, which was extraordinary going for men with full equipment.

AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Dear Sir,—On behalf of my family and self I desire, through the columns of your Journal, to thank the officers and men of the 4th Batt., I. V., and particularly those of "E" Coy., who generously placed a wreath on the last resting-place of my departed son, for the extraordinary tribute of respect as shown on last Sunday by their attendance at the Requiem Mass in Rathfarnham; it is, indeed, consolation in a trying affliction to know that his memory is held in such high esteem by his late comrades. The sight of that vast concourse of armed Volunteers kneeling in prayer and their singing of the many hymns must have sent a thrill of joy through the heart of our kindly and esteemed Soggarth. May God reward the efforts of our boys in the cause of Faith and Fatherland, which to-day, as in the ages past, are inseparable in the humble prayer of a heart-broken but grateful father.—Sincerely yours,

FRANK FAGAN.

Main St., Rathfarnham.

DUALLA.

At a specially convened committee meeting of the Dualla Irish Volunteers, held on Monday evening, 8th inst., on the proposition of Mr. P. McCan, seconded by Mr. Owen Kevin and passed unanimously, all members standing—"That we hereby tender to our esteemed fellow-member, Mr. Patrick Mulcahy, our deepest sympathy on the death of his mother." Copies to be sent to bereaved family and Press.

T. WALSHE, Hon. Sec.

Cumann na mBan

A new Branch has been started at Dundalk, and is already organised, to throw itself into all the specified activities.

We have received several reports this week of work in various parts of the country. The Branch which was started in Craughwell, Co. Galway, some short time ago, reports that all the members attend meetings regularly and everything is in very good order. Tullamore, also a very young Branch, is fulfilling the promise it showed in the beginning. There are now about 50 members in the Branch, and they are actively at work at First Aid, Drill, Signalling, etc. The Branch at Castlebar is enthusiastically carrying out the specific objects of the Cumann na mBan, and in addition they are applying themselves assiduously (like many other Branches) to the learning of the Irish language and Irish dancing. A report from Limerick gives us the gratifying intelligence that the membership of the Branch is ever increasing. With regard to the activities the Secretary writes:—"The First Aid Classes have been restarted, and for convenience of practising it has been divided into squads of six. A number of instructive lectures have been given by members of Cumann na mBan and Irish Volunteers, and as a result very many recruits have joined the Irish Volunteers. A successful dance was held on New Year's Day, in which the Irish-Ireland spirit was prominent. Irish songs, Irish dances, and Irish costumes were a leading feature of the night. The proceeds, £7 13s., have been handed over to the Irish Volunteers.

Séan O Muirthille and Rev. Fr. Wall have kindly promised to lecture in the near future.

THE LATE C. M. TOBIN.

The relatives of the late Christopher M. Tobin (Kit) beg to thank their friends and colleagues for the splendid token of sympathy in their recent sad bereavement, and trust they will accept this acknowledgment as their only possible expression of thanks.

THE MURDER MACHINE.

Mr. P. H. Pearse has added a third pamphlet to the Bodenstown Series. It is entitled "The Murder Machine." In a preface Mr. Pearse explains that the pamphlet is not a penny dreadful (at least in the ordinary sense), as the title might seem to import, but merely a study of the English education system in Ireland. The pamphlet is published at a penny by Whelan & Son, 17 Upper Ormond Quay, and can be had post free in quantities of a dozen or upwards.

AN CUMANN COSANTA.

At a meeting of collectors held on Friday, 11th inst., it was decided that money will be collected from collectors at headquarters on Fridays, between 8 and 9 p.m. in future. Collectors please note.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comhairle Ghnóthaí Féinne Fáil ina nDúnphort tráthnóna D. Céadaoin an 9ad lá de'n mí seo agus an Ceann Cath Tomás Mac Donnchadha ina chathaoirleach orthu.

Do haontuigeadh a lán neithe nach gábhadh a luadh anseo.

Dúnphort na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 9 Feab., 1916.

AIMMNISTE.

Sluagh Átha Cliath.
An Dara Cath.
Complacht F.

An Leas-Chaptaen Proinnsias Mac Ionnraic chum beith ina Chaptaen.

An Ceann Roinne Oirgeas Mac Tréinfhir chum beith ina Leas-Chaptaen Uach.

AN COMHAIRLE CHOITCHEANN.

Tionólfaidh Comhairle Choitcheann Féinne Fáil i nDúnphort na Féinne D. Domhnaigh an 20ad lá de'n mí seo um meadon lae.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, 9th inst., Commandant Thomas MacDonagh in the chair.

A large amount of routine and other business was transacted.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 9th Feb., 1916.

THE AUXILIARY.

Forms of Enrolment for the Irish Volunteers' Auxiliary and special forms for use by Organisers of the Auxiliary and containing spaces for ten names can be had from the General Secretary.

Every sympathiser with the Irish Volunteers who is unable to drill with a Company is asked to join the Auxiliary.

THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

The General Council of the Irish Volunteers will meet at Headquarters on Sunday, the 20th inst., at 12 noon.

Notes from Headquarters

EQUIPMENT.

Recent inquiries go to show that the personal equipment of numbers of Volunteers, even in well-organised Companies and Battalions, is still far from complete. It is very necessary that every Volunteer should immediately supply himself with the articles laid down by Headquarters as indispensable, or at any rate desirable. These articles were specified in an Order of 3rd February, 1915. They may be summarised as follows:—

FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS.

(a.) As to clothes: uniform or other clothes as preferred; if uniform not worn clothes to be of neutral colour; nothing white or shiny; soft **broad-brimmed felt hat** (in lieu of or in addition to cap).

(b.) As to arms: rifle, with sling and cleaning outfit; 100 rounds of ammunition, with bandolier or ammunition pouches to hold same; bayonet, with scabbard and frog; strong knife.

(c.) As to provision for rations: haversack, water-bottle, mess-tin (or billy can), with knife, fork, spoon, tin cup.

(d.) In the knapsack: spare shirt, pair of socks, towel, soap, clothes-brush, comb, tooth-brush; **First-Aid Packet:** scissors, needle, thread, safety-pins.

(e.) In the pocket: clasp-knife, note-book and pencil, matches, boot-laces.

FOR OFFICERS.

In addition to the foregoing Officers will require:—

Pistol or revolver with a hundred rounds; whistle on cord; despatch book; fountain pen or copying pencil; watch; field-glasses; map of district; pocket compass; range-finder. Sub-officers and scouts should aim at having as many as possible of the articles specified for officers.

FOR COMPANIES.

So much for individuals. An Order of 17th February, 1915, specified the items which each **Company** should collect by way of Field Equipment. They are, in brief, a suitable number (dependent on the size of the Company) of the following articles: picks, shovels, entrenching tools, hammers, chisels, saws, small axes, crowbars, spanners, wire-cutters; rope and cord; signalling flags and lamps; stretchers, first-aid appliances (including splints, bandages, etc.); provision for sleeping and cooking; provision for transport; bicycles, motor-bicycle or motor-car; with, of course, as large a reserve of arms and ammunition as possible. Companies should, as far as practicable, carry their full equipment with them on field-days; not necessarily on every field-day, but at any rate on certain field-days which would be set apart for testing the organisation and mobilisation powers of the Company. Remember that mobilisation implies making all your equipment available as well as making all your men available.

IRISH VOLUNTEERS' RELEASE.

Mr. T. McSwiney, Volunteer Organiser, and Mr. Thomas Kent, of Castlelyons, have been released from Cork Gaol after five weeks' imprisonment. No charge has been brought against them, and the authorities have evidently concluded that discretion is the better part of valour.

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

LA DEBACLE.

This is the sad story of Cornelius Cannon, I. V., a tale of disastrous ambition which many a Volunteer should take to heart as a warning.

* * *

Why precisely Cornelius Cannon joined the Volunteers is not very well known. It may have been the martial sound of his own name that put the idea into his head; or, on the other hand, it may not. At any rate he enlisted in "Z" Company of the "Y" Battalion, Dublin Brigade, and worked right willingly and so enthusiastically that the Captain of the Company, who was no easy taskmaster—in fact, our heroe's section commander described him as "a nifty hard-chaw"—seriously thought of making him a squad leader at no far distant date. Such a step would have been very welcome to Cornelius, for although he was comforted by the thought that Epaminondas, Massína, Murat, and many other famous generals had risen from the ranks, yet he felt that the position of an Eoin Roe O'Neill would suit him better than that of a mere grain of cannon-fodder. His chance came soon. A casualty occurred owing to an engagement (matrimonial, of course) in the ranks of the lieutenants. The happy man's place had to be filled, and in the general re-shuffling of ranks Cornelius emerged as a section commander.

* * *

Vaulting ambition! When will you learn restraint? Scarcely had our hero become used to his new position than he began to look higher. With a view to improving his mind he read many exhaustive and exhausting military treatises. A glance at his library would have convinced anyone of his earnestness. Field-Marshal Von Kanonenfutter's enormous volume, "The Movement of Massed Armies to a Flank," was bound to catch the visitor's eye at once, while side by side with "Revolutionary Enthusiasm as a Military Asset," by General Sansculotte, were Colonel Moujik's "Major Siege Operations," Von Hunn's "Use and Abuse of Massed Machine Guns in the Assault," and such minor works as "The Mechanism of the Howitzer," and "How Armies Eat." Cornelius read these with avidity, and could quote from some of them, which he often did, to the great admiration of his younger brother, who confidently expected to see him on the Headquarter's Staff after the next Convention.

* * *

His rise to higher rank was, however, not to be by the easy way of election, but by the thorny path of examination. When he heard this he worked with redoubled intensity. By prodigous labour he learned Kanonenfutter's gigantic volume by heart and acquired a working knowledge of the other books. He became pale and worn. He slept little, and when he did sleep fragments of military orders dropped confusedly from his fevered lips. It would be, "General X, bring the 131st Army Corps up the valley of the Liffey," or, "General Y, telegraph over to Marshal Z and recall the fourth Army Group from over the Shannon," until his family seriously thought of calling in the doctor. When that functionary was consulted he thought for a moment and then gave his diagnosis. "You never know what to expect from these Sinn Feiners."

* * *

The other three section commanders of "Z" Company were hard-chaws. Cornelius, comparing their robust appearance with his own, was in no way perturbed. He had no desire to be a hard-chaw; he was to be a General. He disdained the use of the rifle butt, and could scarcely conceal the scorn he felt for the simple words of command appertaining to his rank.

* * *

The great day arrived, the day of the examination. With "Massed Armies" propped up against the sugar-bowl, he ate a meagre breakfast, and with a parting glance at "Siege Operations" he hurried to the field. Things there seemed rather flat. The examiner, although a Commandant, wore a private's uniform. Cornelius, who had been expecting wheeled crosses, was disappointed to see not even a Sam Brown belt. Evidently, he thought, this must be another hard-chaw. Cornelius waited impatiently for his turn, which came early. Conscious of his tremendous knowledge, he came forward smiling. The Commandant, pointing to a hedge, asked him how he would improve it for use by a defensive line. Cornelius quoted extensively from "Siege Operations." The Commandant was astonished. Indicating, from the mound on which they stood, a small area of country, he asked him what would be the best position for a picquet and two groups of sentries. Cornelius replied that he had omitted to study such minor details. The Commandant then asked him some small question about counter-attacks, and Cornelius recited verbatim Chapter 239 of "Massed Armies." Thereupon the Commandant turned on him with a look of wonder and said, "Who the hell has been handing you out that dope?"

* * *

There is an excellent and well-preserved copy of Von Kanonenfutter's "Movement of Massed Armies to a Flank," with some other and minor military works, to be seen any day at Webb's on the Quay. And when any ambitious youngster asks Cornelius, who is still a section commander (and developing into a hard-chaw), what he ought to read, Cornelius hands him THE IRISH VOLUNTEER.

E. O'D.

NIGHT OPERATIONS

3.—NIGHT MARCHES (continued).

THE STARTING POINT, which the head of the column is to pass at a given time, is fixed, and indicated by lamps or fires. This will be mentioned in Orders. Care must be taken that each unit reaches this point by marching **forward** in the direction of the march.

BRANCH ROADS. To prevent troops in rear from straying these will be blocked by men from the advanced guard. These men will be afterwards withdrawn by the rear guard.

GUIDING COLUMNS by night in **open country:—**

1. A luminous compass is required. Points where change of direction is required should be noted.
2. The general direction can be kept by the Stars. (See "Na Fianna Eireann," p. 8, IRISH VOLUNTEER, Feb. 12.)
3. Distances from front to rear may be kept by means of knotted ropes.

4.—NIGHT ADVANCES.

THE OBJECT. To gain ground from which further progress can be made by day, not to deliver an assault. An attack may, however, be delivered at or after dawn. Volunteers will find it necessary to employ night advances only on a small scale.

RECONNAISANCE. Must be thorough. Ascertain—

(i.) Position of enemy outposts and forces.
(ii.) Nature of entrenchments.
(iii.) Obstacles in the way.
(iv.) Landmarks likely to be of assistance.

It may be necessary to fight, by daylight, to get this information. But it must be got. The scouts who reconnoitred the ground should be selected to guide units.

GROUND GAINED should be entrenched, or the troops should carry empty sand-bags, which can be quickly filled and placed in position.

REMARKS. All that has been said relative to discipline, etc., on the subject of night marches holds true in night advances also.

To Officers: Know where you're going; know what you're going to do; and do it.

(To be continued.)

"B" COY., LIVERPOOL.

Draw for .45 calibre Revolver.

Persons holding blocks and cash in connection with above are requested to forward same to Mr. M. Gleeson, Coy. Secretary, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

THOS. CRAVEN, Capt.

Officers of the 2nd Batt. will attend at Battalion Headquarters at 7.45 a.m., on Sunday, 20th.

NOTES ON FOOD

MUTTON—BEEF.

Home-bred oxen in good condition ought to yield not less than 600 lbs. of meat. Some very fat beasts will yield as much as 1,200 lbs. Cows and heifers should yield from 400 to 600 lbs. Sheep should yield from 50 to 80 lbs.

BREAD—BISCUIT.

Rye bread is very largely used on the Continent and in parts of America. It makes a dark-coloured loaf, slightly heavy and sourish in taste. However, the palate soon accustoms itself to its use. It keeps well and is not much injured by rough handling. Its comparatively small bulk is also a consideration which might recommend its use as a military food. In the English Army it is not used, but forms the staple food of the German.

It is made in an exactly similar way to wheaten bread. If so desired, rye-flour might be mixed with wheaten flour in the proportion of about one-third wheat to two-thirds rye. The wheaten flour makes the bread something lighter and more digestible.

Army biscuits consist of only meal, salt and water kneaded into a thick paste, cut into the proper shape, pricked with holes and baked in the oven. Biscuits will keep for a long time, but bread baked with yeast, etc., soon becomes musty. The reason for making them in the form of flat cakes is to ensure that all moisture has been extracted. They are usually made of the meal of wheat from which only the coarsest bran has been separated.

Biscuits are a convenient and compact form of food. They are compact and keep a long time when properly packed in casks or tins. Should they get damp, however, they become mouldy. They contain more nutriment than the same bulk or weight of bread, ¾-lb. biscuit being equal to 1 lb. bread. This is the ration in the English Army on peace service, but 1 lb. biscuit is issued in place of 1¼ lb. bread on active service.

Biscuits should be of a light yellow colour, highly dried and crisp, but not burnt. They should float in water, and when struck give out a ringing sound. A piece put in the mouth should be allowed to soften down thoroughly.

The army biscuit must be hard enough to allow of its being carried in a haversack without receiving appreciable damage from the numerous articles carried therein. For field service they are packed in tin-lined cases. The present biscuit weighs 2 ozs.

UNFERMENTED CAKES.

The chuppaty of India is simply made from flour, water and salt. It is agreeable to the taste and nutritious.

The mixture of flour and water with a little salt is made into a stiff dough, which is rolled out to a thickness of about one inch on any round tin that might be available. It is then cooked over the cinders.

The Australian damper is made by digging a hole in the ground, filling it with a wood fire, and when the fire has thoroughly burnt up, removing it, laying the dough on a large stone, covering it with a tin plate and heaping the hot ashes round and over it.

In a campaign every soldier, if he could get flour, baking powder and wood, would soon learn to bake a cake for himself. The only point which requires manipulation is not to have the heat too great; if it be above 212° F. too much of the starch is turned into dextrine and the cake is tough. Exposed to greater heat and well dried the unfermented cake becomes biscuit.

If the chuppaty or damper be spoiled in the cooking, soak it in water, or milk if available, and bake it again in any improvised oven. A fairly palatable form of biscuit will thus be obtained.

Hedge-Fighting for Small Units

CHAPTER V.

COMBAT RECONNAISSANCE.

In intersected country the need for thorough reconnaisance when in the neighbourhood of the enemy is doubly imperative. If it is neglected the mortality among scouts and advance parties will be very great. Sudden and needless casualties will speedily discourage the rank and file of a force not specially trained for such warfare. A system of thorough training in this outpost and patrol fighting is necessary if enclosures are to be tither held or cleared without hopeless loss and confusion. So numerous and so varied would be the opportunities for surprise that in practice it will probably be impossible to escape being surprised all the time. But with proper care and proper methods of instruction it will be possible to greatly reduce the risks.

It will easily be understood that proper training in reconnaisance is essential in the attack. A little thought will convince anyone that it is equally essential for a successful defence. Without it it will be impossible to adequately safeguard the flanks, to carry out any counter-attacks that entail sending a party to a flank, etc. The following extract from the "Eye-Witness" will illustrate the importance of combat reconnaisance by the

EXAMPLE OF NEUVE CHAPELLE.

"In advancing over the intricate country, intersected with hedges and ditches, the platoon commanders had to go forward to discover the best way round or across these obstacles. They were forced to risk their own lives in order to save their men from the danger of being crowded together in narrow places, such as bridges or gaps in hedgerows."

But, manifestly, if the rank and file had been properly grounded in combat reconnaissance the officers would not have been thus obliged to risk their own valuable lives. And not only that, but better tactical results would have been obtained.

RECONNAISSANCE AND FIGHTING.

In the closely intersected Irish terrain combat reconnaissance and fighting go hand-in-hand. In fact, the two operations practically become one. The combat patrols on each side will always seek to overthrow and demoralise the combat patrols of the other. If one force's patrols are so well trained and energetically handled that they regularly defeat the opposing parties: then, evidently they succeed in blinding the enemy. The latter can no longer hope for profit from his scouting detachments—if they are always beaten, and is hopelessly in the dark. On the other hand, bold and successful patrolling provides continuous and accurate information and leaves the hands of the commanders entirely free. Hence the outpost troops even of a defending force should be aggressively handled. It is the surest way to secure information and time.

SCOUTING BEFORE AN ADVANCE.

The only safe method for advancing the mai nbody is by previously clearing all enclosures in front by small patrols pushed ahead. In this way the commander of a force lining a hedge at one side of a field will satisfy himself that the opposite side is not held in strength, and that no small parties are lying in ambush on the flanks. For this purpose he must send forward a few men along the side hedges parallel to his line of advance. A couple of men—who should use all possible cover—would suffice for each line of hedge.

Scouts moving forward to reconnoitre a hedge should avoid the more obvious gaps and breaks. These are very ilkely marked down as targets. A less noticeable opening will usually be the best. Frequently chances of enfilade fire on a small scale will present themselves.

FLANK PROTECTION.

The officers commanding sections of a line are each of them responsible for the protection of the flanks of their own units. And they are responsible for this all the time. One or two good men will suffice for this service if the unit is a centrally-situated one: there is no need for any complicated action. The only needful precaution is to be sure that small enemy bodies do not penetrate between sections of the line—and to punish them heavily if they do. On an extreme flank a small detachment under a capable N.C.O. will perhaps be the most satisfactory solution. The question cannot be decided off-hand. Circumstances of ground, etc., will alter it indefinitely.

SUBSCRIPTION.—The Irish Volunteer will be posted free to any address for one year at a cost of 6/6; for half a year, 3/3; for the quarter, 1/8.

Leabhar Drille Dóighláchaidh na hÉireann

(An Leanmhaint).

Teoiriceacht Lámhaigh.

Mínighte.

1. **Meadhon-líne an Bhairille.**—Sin líne ramhlaighte tré ceartlár an taobh iartigh den bairille ó orcailt an ghunna go dtí beul an ghunna.

2. **An Líne Díreach.**—Siné meadhon-líne an bairille acht fáid a chur ar. Terpeánann sé an bóchar a ghéobhadh an pileur dámadh ná beadh aon neart eile chum oibrighte ar an bpileur tarséir é chaitheamh.

3. **Líne an Radhairc.**—Siné an líne théidheann lom díreach ó súil an ghunnadóra trearna dhá radharc an ghunna go dtí an curpóir.

4. **Beul-luas an Philéir.**—Siné luas imtheachta an philéir díreach tarséir teacht ar beul an ghunna dhó. 2,000 troigh sa trecundh ir beul-luas do phileur an ghunna a bhíonn ag an raighdiúir nGallda anois (sa bliadhain 1907).

5. **Neart Tarraic.** Siné an neart nádúrtha tarraingeann i dtreo meadhóin na talmhan gach aon ní ná bíonn aon rud chum é choimeádh in áirdhe agus bíonn ag meudughadh i gcomhnuidhe ar luas an ní rin ag teacht anuas dó. Oibrighéann an neart san ar an bpileur an túirce ina bhágann sé beul an ghunna (tarséir a théilghte amach le neart an phleurcha). Oibrighéann daingneacht an aeir ar an bpileur, leis, i dtreo, dá fáid a théidheann an pileur, gurb' eadh ir mó baintear óna luas. De bharr an dá neart san do bheith ag oibriughadh ar an bpileur ní hé an líne díreach a ghabann sé acht líne cam.

Cúrsa an Philéir an ainm a tugtar ar an gcam-líne rin. **Mullach líne an philéir** (nó, an mhullach) a thabharfaimíd ar an mball ir aoirdhe sa líne rin. Tarséir do phileur gunna an airm ghallda an ceud slat thoraigh do chur de bhíonn sé tuitthe sé óslaigh fé bun an líne dhírigh 7 tarséir ceud slat eile do chur de bhíonn sé tuitthe dá thoigh fé bun an líne dhírigh. Mar rin de dá fáid a ghabann an pileur iread ir mó a thuiteann. Ní mór, dá bhrigh rin, beul an ghunna d'ardughadh i dtreo go mbeidh an líne díreach chomh mór or cionn an churpóra agus tuitfeadh an pileur fé bun an churpóra dá mbeadh an líne díreach ar aon leibeul leis an gcurpóir.

"When We Fight We Fight for—"

Speaking at the concert held for the benefit of the Equipment Fund of "G" Coy., 2nd Batt., Dublin Brigade, at 41 Parnell Square, on Sunday evening, 6th inst., Commandant P. H. Pearse said that the Irish Volunteers had stated their objects in their original manifesto. People had professed to find that statement vague and unsatisfactory. If they had mistaken the sense of the statement the mistake was their own, and not that of the Volunteers. The statement itself was perfectly plain, and meant exactly what it said. It had put it that the primary object of the Irish Volunteers was to secure and maintain the rights and liberties common to all the people of Ireland. The first right common to all the people of Ireland was the right to national freedom. When he had said at Glasnevin a few months ago that the Irish Volunteers and those who were associated with them in that day's duty must stand together henceforth for the achievement of Irish freedom, and had added that they knew only one definition of freedom, people, he was told, had thrown up their hands in mock horror and said "Pearse has let the cat out of the bag. He admits that the Irish Volunteers are out for Separation." As far as he was concerned, the cat had never been in a bag. He and the majority of them had been Separatists before they were Volunteers. Was it to be pretended that in becoming Volunteers they had become something less than Separatists? Personally, he had avowed his object at and ever since the very first meeting. True, he had been willing to co-operate with those who did not go as far as he, hoping that the Separatists and the others might travel the same road as far as the others could go. He now feared that this had been a vain hope, that the roads had been divergent from the beginning. There is nothing in common between those who hold the sovereignty of the Irish nation as the first article of their political creed and those who accept as "a final settlement" an act which expressly denies that sovereignty. If ever the Irish Volunteers went into action they would go into action for Irish freedom. It would be wrong for him to say that they might soon be called into action; it would be still more wrong to say that they would never be called into action. They had contemplated the possibility of action from the first day. One thing that he could and would say was that a Volunteer should always be prepared for action. The need for the completion of their equipment was obvious. The time had come when every Irish Volunteer and every friend of the Irish Volunteers should place everything that they could spare from the needs of those dependent upon them at the disposal of the Irish Volunteers.

The Dublin Brigade

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING 20th FEBRUARY, 1916.

1. All Classes as usual.
2. Junior Officers' lecture on Saturday. No Lectures on Tuesday.
3. Officers of 2nd Batt. will attend at Battalion Headquarters at 7.45 a.m., Sunday, 20th.
4. The 3rd Batt. will assemble at Dartry Road Tram Terminus at 5 a.m., Sunday, 20th, for day in camp.

E. de Valera,
Brigade Adjt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

IRISH HISTORY LECTURES.
20th Feb., 1916.—Celtic and Irish Law and Its Administration.
Eóin Mac Néill, B.A.
ADMISSION THREEPENCE.

Connradh na Gaedhilge.

A CONCERT, DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT, AND CEILIDH

Will be held in **ST. MARGARET'S** on **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20th.**

"IRELAND FIRST," by P. Kehoe, and **"SPREADING THE NEWS,"** by Lady Gregory, Will be produced by the local players.

CONCERT starts at 7.30—
ADMISSION - 2s. and 1s.
CEILIDH immediately afterwards—
ADMISSION - - - 1s.

GRAND CONCERT AND DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE.

"THE PRODICAL DAUGHTER,"
BY F. SHEEHY-SKEFFINGTON,
In Foresters' Hall, 41 Parnell Square,
On
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20th, at 8 p.m.

Artistes include:—Mrs. Fay Sargent, Mrs. Salkeld, Miss Marie Nic Shiubhlaigh, Miss Molly O'Byrne, Miss Cathleen Coughlan, Mr. Gerard Crofts, Mr. Brian O'Higgins, Mr. Sean Connolly, Mr. Thomas O'Shea, Mr. Thomas Malone. Violin—Mr. Thomas Page. Piano—Mr. ffrench Mullen.

Proceeds to the "Irish Citizen" Fund.
Tickets, 2s. and 1s. Admission 6d.

"DO WE WANT PEACE NOW?"
A PUBLIC DEBATE

On the above subject, between COUNTESS DE MARKIEVICZ and FRANCIS SHEEHY-SKEFFINGTON, will be held on **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18th, at 8 o'c., in the FORESTERS' HALL, 41 PARNELL SQ.**
ADMISSION THREEPENCE.

CELTIC AND IRISH LAW
(And Its Administration).

On next Sunday night Eoin Mac Neill will deliver his third Lecture at 8 p.m., in the Hall, 25 Parnell Square, when he will deal with the above subject in all its phases. In these days when Irishmen are so closely brought into touch with the peculiar administration of foreign laws, this Lecture should have a very great attraction for our readers. Admission as usual, 3d., payable at door.

Fianna Fáil—Sluagh Corcaighe
(Irish Volunteers—Cork Corps).

GRAND ANNUAL DANCE
Will be held in CITY HALL, CORK, ON FEBRUARY 26th,

Applications for Tickets should be made immediately.

Double tickets 10/-. Gent's 6/-; Ladies' 4/-.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 64 (New Series). SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26th, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

TO OUR READERS.

Owing to the increasing cost of paper the IRISH VOLUNTEER appears in a new form this week. Although the paper will be smaller for the present it will contain all our usual articles and there will be no decrease in either the quantity or quality of our literary matter. On account of the protracted nature of the fight for small nationalities, christianity, civilisation, etc., economies of this kind have become necessary.

NOTES

Which are we to believe—the Galway declaration that we have not yet even established our claim to National self-government, or the Manifesto declaration that England's Democracy has granted our just demand? The two statements cannot both be true, and it would not be honest towards the people of Ireland to wrap up these contradictory statements in rags of rhetoric, so that black might pass for white. Either we have secured Home Rule or we have not. If we have it, let us see it. If we have not got it yet, then we have got nothing but a ruinous burden of taxes, which imposes no obligation on us whatsoever, except the obligation of doing all in our power to avert the national ruin. It may be said we have got a firm promise. That is not true. The defunct Liberal Government, with the full consent of the British Democracy, has given a firm promise to the opponents of Home Rule that they will have the fullest opportunity of "amending" the hung-up Act, even if they amend it so as to make it useless and unacceptable. But supposing we had a firm promise, what then? It is only fair dealing to pay promises with promises.

* * *

In this case no payment is due. We have claimed self-government not as a favour but as a right. Our demand for self-government was not a huxtering bargain, it was a suit for justice. To demand payment for justice is to renew injustice. We are told that in our long-maintained suit for justice, the award was at last given in our favour when the Home Rule Bill was signed by King George. King George holds his position subject to the provisions of Magna Charta, which lays down that "justice shall not be denied or **sold** or **delayed.**" The Home Rule Act is now both delayed and held up for purchase, and the price that is placed upon it is a price of blood. Looked at honestly, such a transaction is an infamous transaction on the part of those who force it on Mr. Redmond. Mr. Asquith was conscious of the vile nature of such a compact when, during his last visit to Ireland, he proclaimed that what he asked from Ireland was "the free gift of a free people." When the war and its fever are things of the past, the world will understand the vile character of the statesmanship that affixed a price to the fulfilment of a treaty already conceded as a measure of justice. Mr. Birrell, whose name is on the back of that treaty, lectures Irishmen about loyalty, but he and the English Viceroy stood on the platform at Galway, where Mr. Redmond was compelled to say that our claim to the Home Rule Act would be null and void unless we first paid the price—and Birrell is an honourable man, so are they all, all honourable men.

* * *

The Home Rule Act has been postponed till St. Patrick's Day. Unless it is further postponed by the Government, it ought to have effect from that day. That is a point about which there will not be much said to the electors by the band of paid Members of Parliament who are now electioneering in Ireland. They will talk about conventions and party unity, and so forth, just as if there was no Home Rule Act and no prospect of Home Rule, and as if the prospect before the Irish electors was to hold Conventions and support a united party "per omnia saecula saeculorum"—and to pay any taxes the united party joins in imposing.

Three years ago, if any British Government had proposed for any purpose in the world to impose Eight Millions additional annual taxation on Ireland, there would not have been a Unionist in the whole country or a Unionist organ but would have denounced the proposal as absolutely ruinous to this country. Now the additional Eight Millions has already been imposed, and there is only one Nationalist M.P. to oppose it. The rest think to get off, leaders included, by saying nothing. These dumb dogs that do not bark will be as guilty of the consequences as the British Government, and more guilty, for they are trustees for Ireland. The consequences will not be felt all at once—and that is what our fraudulent trustees are counting on. They need not count on it. The consequences will be an enormous further reduction in the Irish population, a gradual tightening of the cord round the throat of Ireland, penury and misery slowly invading thousands of Irish homes, despair and wretchedness and insanity, every improvement wrecked, every hope of economic revival blasted—by the action and inaction of a party which has now sunk into the position of a dependent faction.

* * *

Not they alone will be guilty. There are hundreds of public men in Ireland who have been roped into this position of faction, men whose duty it is to warn and ward the public against the economic ruin that threatens us. The misery of innumerable homes will be on the heads of those men if they continue in this course of faction. Why have they not the honesty and the manliness to face the simple question—Can Ireland bear the addition of millions of taxation already imposed? We have seen taunts about skulking behind the power of Great Britain. The people will soon understand who are the skulks. The time is fast coming when even the Pretence of the Realm Act will not protect the preachers of patent humbug.

* * *

On February 17th Mr. Trevelyan, M.P., asked the Prime Minister in Parliament whether, when the Government passed the Defence of the Realm Act, they contemplated that the new law would suspend the Habeas Corpus Act; and whether, now that the Law Courts have interpreted the Act as depriving British citizens of this safeguard for personal liberty, the Government will take steps to restore to British citizens their legal security against the exercise of arbitrary power by the Executive? Sir William Byles supplemented and developed the question. Mr. Asquith replied: "The Regulation in question applies only to British subjects of hostile origin and associations." This explains the arbitrary imprisonment of Irishmen—they belong to the Irish Enemy. Was it the notice of this question that forced Dublin Castle to produce a charge against Mr. MacSwiney, of Cork, after they had held him in jail for weeks without any charge? On second thoughts, too, the Castle has released Mr. MacCabe, of Tubbercurry, having first decided to hold him in jail till the next Commission after his acquittal by a jury. We wonder will the "Party" pass another secret resolution protesting against imprisonment by trick of the loop under the Pretence of the Realm Act?

* * *

Mr. Claud Chevasse now understands what a serious matter it is to "make a fool of Constable Appleby and the Pretence of the Realm Act." We are back to the times when a man could be jailed for "a humbugging sort of a smile" in the presence of the august Applebys—but not for long.

* * *

After a recruiting meeting recently, where the desire of the Germans to occupy farms in the West of Ireland was a trump card, one of the orators went about among the people to find out the impression produced. He spoke to a local farmer about the horrors and dangers of the war, and drew the reply, "It's the blessing of God we are a neutral country, anyhow."

* * *

A stranger was exploring the historic site of the Battle of Oulart the other day. He asked a local farmer what the people thought nowadays about Ninety-Eight. "Oh, most of them are all right—they are still for Ireland." "And what about the others?" "Oh, sure enough, they're for Redmond."

EOIN MAC NEILL.

THE FALL OF ERZERUM.

When the Grand Duke Nicholas was transferred from Europe to the Caucasus there were not wanting people who considered the change a slur on his generalship. He has given such people an effective answer. The well-planned and executed concentration of Russian forces, resulting in the fall of Erzerum, has sufficiently proved the Russian leader's capacity. And this is so despite the fact that such a stroke was in the power of the Russians, any time they elected to make it.

It was always in their power, because they could always concentrate superior forces there, by reason of their vastly superior communications in this theatre of war. Assuming that Tiflis was the chief Russian base, they had available to that point three lines of communication: (1) by sea to Poti and Batum and thence by rail; (2) by the great military road through the Dariel Pass from Vladicaucas to Tiflis; (3) by the railway round the eastern flank of the Caucasus, following the shore of the Caspian by Derbend and Baku. Southward from Tiflis the railway is prolonged to Kars, about eighty miles from Erzerum. To oppose to this the Turks had only one line—by rail from Brussa by Eskisher as far as Angora, and from there by Swas and Erzigan, over two hundred miles by none too good a road. Clearly the Turks could never—assuming equal forces to begin with—compete with the Russians once the latter were determined to concentrate a numerically superior force. Moreover, the better quality of the Russian lines enabled them to bring up heavy siege-guns to attack the forts.

As far as we can judge the bulk of the Turkish forces, including the garrison of Erzerum, have made good their escape. Presumably they will seek to re-form at Erzigan, some eighty or so miles to the west on the Western Euphrates. A very vigorous pursuit by large forces will scarcely be possible, as the roads from Erzerum are not as good as those on which the earlier Russian advance was made.

South of Erzerum the Russians have taken Mush and Akhlat, west of Lake Van, thus getting a pretty secure footing in all the country north of the Armenian Taurus Mountains. It would, however, be a mistake to suppose that this cuts off any Turkish forces around Van, although the lake is no longer of any service to the latter. The Van forces communicate with the centre of the Ottoman Empire by Diarbekr and the Tigris valley south of the Armenian Taurus range, across which there are no good roads. The Armenian Taurus is about a hundred miles south of Erzerum, and is impassable for large forces. Consequently any direct Russian advance towards Baghdad in strong force is not possible. Any weak force would scarcely be able to cope with the irregular bands of warlike Kurds, whose main territory is the region between Erzerum and Diarbekr.

Similarly any Russian advance westward past Erzingan is not likely. The Turkish army is reforming there, and covers its supplies and reinforcements, while the Russians would no longer have their own excellent communications. Much the likeliest course for the Grand Duke is to push out a strong flank-guard towards Erzingan and turn southwards across the Soghanli Dagh to Trebizond. In an attack on Trebizond he would have the co-operation of the Black Sea Fleet; Trebizond is an important port; and the roads thither from Erzerum are very good for so mountainous a region. The result of a Russian advance on Trebizond is impossible to forecast. There is no means of estimating whether the Grand Duke has sufficient troops to press that attack vigorously and at the same time hold off any Turkish attempt to recapture Erzerum. Presumably any Turkish troops that can be spared from Gallipoli or Syria will be sent to the Caucasus; and it will not be possible to send too many Russian troops from Europe for fear of weakening the armies in the main theatre of war.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Coṁairle Ġnóṫa Féinne Fáil ina nDúnpoṙt tráṫnóna D. Céadaoin an 16ad lá de'n ṁí ro, agur an Ceann Caṫa Éamonn Ceannt ina ċaṫaoiṙleaċ oṙṫa.

Do ṙinneaḋ a lán ġnóṫa do ḃain le hoileaṁain agur le harmáil na Féinne.

Tionól do bí ag an gCoṁairle Ċoiṫċinn D. Domnaiġ an 20ad lá agur an tOide Eoin Mac Néill, Uaṫṫaṙán, ina ceannuṙ.

Do ṙníoṫ tuaṙaṙgbála an ġluaiṙeaċt na hoibṙe ar ṙud na tíṙe é na teaċtaiṙíḋ do bí i láṫair.

Do ṙáġaḋ de ċúṙam ar na teaċtaiṙíḋ armáil na Féinne ina gconntaeṫíḋ do ċríoċnuṫaḋ gan ṁoill.

Dúnpoṙt na Féinne,
Áṫ Cliaṫ, 21 Feaḃ., 1916.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, the 16th inst., Commandant Eamonn Ceannt in the chair.

A large amount of business connected with Training and Equipment was dealt with.

The General Council met on Sunday, the 20th inst., Professor Eoin Mac Neill, President, in the chair.

Reports on the progress of the organisation throughout the country were received from the delegates present.

The duty of seeing to the rapid completion of the equipment of their units was placed upon county representatives.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson St.,
Dublin. 21st Feb., 1916.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS.

EQUIPMENT.

The question of equipment—in which are included arms and ammunition as well as all the other necessary parts of a Volunteer's field outfit—was the most important of many questions discussed at the meeting of the General Council on Sunday last. It is felt that a genuine effort should be made during the next month or so to complete the equipment of all our units. The responsibility for the equipment of all the units within their respective areas has been laid on the county delegates to the General Council, who must work in this matter in close touch with Brigade, Battalion, and Company Commanders. The delegates are expected to report at each meeting of the Council, and it is hoped that there will be an encouraging series of reports at the March meeting.

BUY NOW.

The first and most obvious thing is to expend the sums of money which are actually lying in the hands of local corps on the arms and other equipment which Headquarters is able to supply. Since the Howth landing there has never been a moment at which Headquarters was not in a position to supply guns for money down. Guns are still available, and local treasurers in many places have balances in hand. These guns and these balances should change places with all possible speed; and this will mean more money at the disposal of Headquarters for the purchase of more guns. There is no point whatever in keeping money lying idle while Headquarters has goods to supply.

HAVERSACKS, etc.

Apart from arms and ammunition, Headquarters is in a position to sell various other important items of Volunteer equipment. Foremost among these is a haversack of a very serviceable quality and at a reasonable price. Every Volunteer needs a haversack, and Company officers should see that all their men are supplied. All inquiries with regard to equipment (other than arms and ammunition) should be addressed to the Director of Transport and Supply.

HOW TO DO IT.

General Orders covering all matters of equipment have been in existence for over a year, and the more important of these were summarised in last week's issue of THE IRISH VOLUNTEER. A General Order is, however, valueless unless the local officers see that it is carried out. The best way to go to work is (1) to bring the Order prominently before the men's notice, going into matters of local ways and means as far as may be desirable; (2) to provide the necessary machinery for supplying such articles as it would not be reasonable to expect the men to procure by their individual exertions; (3) after a due interval, order a parade of all men with full equipment; (4) take a note of all items missing and adopt measures to ensure that they are supplied; (5) reprimand men who are slack in the matter of equipping themselves and compliment or reward men who show themselves energetic in the matter. Let it be understood that General Orders can only be enforced by this process of LOCAL ORDERS followed by INSPECTION.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

It is very desirable that all public holidays, such as St. Patrick's Day, Easter Sunday, Whit Sunday, etc., should be availed of by the Irish Volunteers for purposes of field training, concentrations, marches, etc. The Executive is anxious that the coming St. Patrick's Day should be marked everywhere by Church Parades of Irish Volunteers, parading as Companies, Battalions, or Brigades according to local circumstances, and that the massed bodies should afterwards engage in some useful piece of training, such as a march or an operation. An Order on the subject will be published next week, but in the meantime the arrangements for the Church Parades should be pushed on.

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

DISCURSIVE AGAIN.

Here is an interesting quotation from a newspaper:—"When the soldier jumps down into a trench full of enemies—as he must do when charging unless he remains above to be shot—he is no longer able to use rifle or bayonet to advantage. He is like a man in a close crowd, who cannot draw back his weapon so as to make it effective. Accordingly we read of men taking off the bayonet to use it by hand, and also of men resorting to their fists. Everything points to the advisability of a short knife or dirk being at instant command when the jump into the trench is made. And this is not for thrusting forward, as in striking a blow, but for back-handed action, the arm being swung with the blade projecting—a dagger action, in fact, which is much the quickest and most effective way of dealing with an enemy who is close up to you. The mode of use would be to have it out just before jumping into the trench, and to swing it into the face of the nearest man, and as rapidly as possible into the faces of as many men as can be reached—no stabbing at the body. The purpose should be to 'flabbergast' your man more than merely to wound. A jab in the face in the best way of getting in first, which is everything in a hand-to-hand struggle, and a most disconcerting injury."——Well, boys, why not get a few knives?

* * *

I once registered a vow that these columns should be useful as well as ornamental. I have occasionally tried to redeem that vow, and being in an unusually faithful mood this week I am going to give some advice that may any day, even during peace time, save a casualty in our ranks. It may astound some people to learn that it is very seldom necessary to drown if you fall into deep water and cannot swim. All you have to do is to **keep your hands down,** and you will rise to the surface. By paddling you can raise your head, and by the movement of walking upstairs you can keep your shoulders above water. You can then shout for help and keep up till it comes. This method wont save you in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, but it will, at any rate, preserve you from the humiliating experience of being drowned within sight of your friends at a seaside resort. So remember.

* * *

I hear that two Volunteers of a Munster Company were recently taken into custody by a singularly competent military authority, who mistook them for deserters from the British Army, the sole evidence against them, so to speak, being their military walk and bearing. The pair have been insufferably pleased with themselves ever since. I, however, feel that it is rather a slur on the Volunteer movement that this kind of thing doesn't happen every day. Surely there are more than two Volunteers in the whole of Ireland with a soldierly walk and swagger. I think nobody should be made a Squad leader till he has been taken into custody at least once. But then I am an idealist.

* * *

When I started these Notes some three months ago I made an appeal for greater attention to be paid to smartness and promptitude on parade and off, and it had some effect at the time. I would now reiterate that appeal. Smartness on parade is of value not merely from a decorative point of view, but as a propagandist asset, and as being conducive to better discipline in the field. The Dublin sub-officers are rapidly smartening up, and they ought to transmit the smartness to their men.

* * *

To keep your spirits up I shall wind up with a couple of verses addressed by Kipling to a Young Soldier:—

"When first under fire and you're wishful to duck
Don't look or take heed at the man that is struck.
Be thankful you're living and trust to your luck,
And keep to your front like a soldier.

"When your officer's dead and the sergeants look white
Remember it's ruin to run from a fight.
Take open order, lie low and sit tight,
And wait for supports like a soldier."

Good advice to remember in emergency, and the lines aren't hard to learn.

Cumann na mBan

I propose to give the verbatim report of the "Inghinidhe na h-Eireann" Branch of the Cumann na mBan, as I am sure it will serve as an inspiration to young Branches who want to fit in all the activities of the organisaiton into a limited space of time:—

"The above Branch has since November made steady progress in all activities. We have seven Squads and one Signalling Squad in good working order. Each of these squads are composed of six members (five and a Squad leader). We held a very successful concert in September; the proceeds we spent in getting together equipment, having four stretchers, First-Aid appliances and various other necessary requirements. The members are all very enthusiastic about their work and the objects for which the Cumann is working. We have between 60 and 70 members on Roll, with a fairly regular attendance. The Branch meetings are held twice weekly. On Tuesday we meet for drill; on Thursday night, from 8 to 10 o'clock, we meet for home-nursing lectures, which course has just been finished, and we intend, if possible, to start another First-Aid Course for the benefit of new members, which are rolling in steadily.

"A Commandant, Adjutant, and Quartermaster have been appointed, and will hold office for three months. After this period there will be a general examination, when these officers will be appointed on merit. It is also our intention to hold another concert and drama on the 19th March, the proceeds of which we mean to spend on more equipment. We had two very successful test mobilisations, to which the members turned out in full strength; the last mobilisation finished with a short route march up through Rathmines, Leinster Road, down through Harold's Cross, along the Canal by Portobello Barracks, through Richmond Street and Camden Street, arriving at Hall about 9.15, where we went through some drill and signalling until 10 o'clock, when the members were given the order to dismiss."

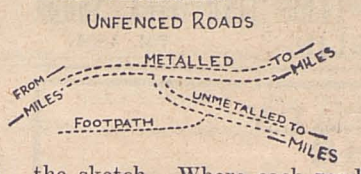
It is really invigorating to see the grit of some of our countrywomen abroad in Manchester. In spite of conscription, with its consequences for Irishmen living there, they have started a new Branch of Cumann na mBan with all their energy to support the Volunteer cause. They have already got between 30 and 40 members, and are starting to organise a Whist Drive to collect funds for the organisation. We wish them every success in their efforts under such trying circumstances.

SUBSCRIPTION.—THE IRISH VOLUNTEER will be posted free to any address for one year at a cost of 6/6; for half a year, 3/3; for the quarter, 1/8.

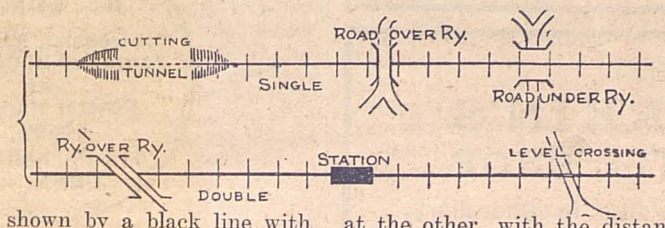
NA FIANNA EIREANN

CONVENTIONAL SIGNS.

A thorough knowledge of the conventional signs used in field-sketching must be at the finger-ends of every scout. Without a knowledge of these signs the scout would be unable to read a military map or to draw a rough sketch, which is often very necessary when reconnoitring. Most of the signs given below are those already in use with the "competent military authorities" in these countries. In addition, however, I have introduced a number of new signs to represent the different kinds of fences which divide off fields and form such an important feature of this country from the military standpoint. The value of these new signs will be understood and, I hope, appreciated, by those who have read the excellent series of articles on Hedge-Fighting which have appeared in THE IRISH VOLUNTEER.

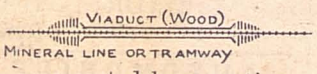


ROADS enclosed by hedges, walls, or fences of any kind are shown by continuous lines; unfenced roads—i.e., open roads having no obstruction that would interfere with troops moving freely on and off them, are represented by dotted lines. The construction of the road, whether "metalled" (i.e., paved, macadamised, or gravelled) or "unmetalled" must be written on the sketch. Where each road leads to and the distance in miles should be shown on every sketch, thus: From DUBLIN, 3 miles, marked at the point where the road begins in the sketch, (usually at the bottom of the sketch); and To SWORDS, 2 miles, where the road leaves the sketch. A footpath is shown by a single dotted line.



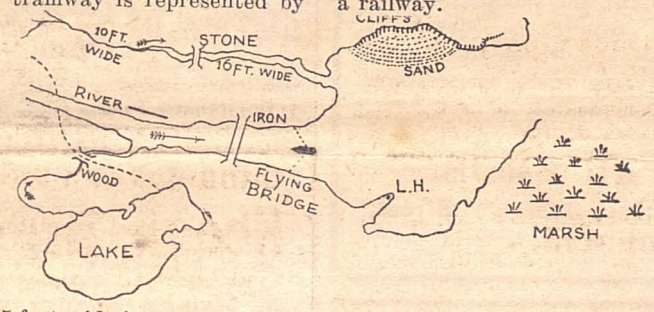
A RAILWAY is shown by a black line with cross-bars. The word "single" or "double" should be written across it to show whether it is a single or double line. A double line may be shown by two black lines with cross-bars, in which case no writing is necessary. As in the case of roads, every railway on a map should have From ——— at one end of it and To ——— at the other, with the distance in miles shown in each case.

An "embankment" and "cutting" are represented by hachures drawn at right angles to the railway, road, etc. In an "embankment" the hachures are drawn from the road, and in a "cutting" towards the road. A line is drawn along the top of a cutting.



A TELEGRAPH is represented by a continuous line with large dots at regular intervals.

A mineral line or tramway is represented by a black line with cross-bars drawn much smaller and closer together than those used to represent a railway.



A RIVER under 15 feet wide is represented by a single wavy line; over 15 feet by double lines. The name of the river should be written along it, and the direction of the current shown by an arrow.

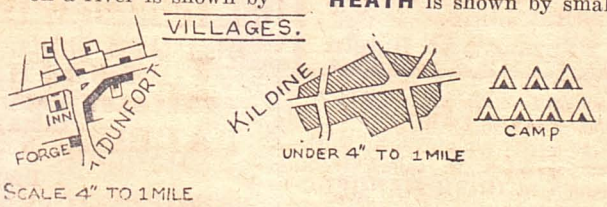
The construction of **BRIDGES** should be described in words thus: Iron, stone, wood, etc.

A "ford" or "ferry" on a river is shown by a dotted line. In either case the word must be written on the sketch.

Cliffs, quarry or precipitous ground is represented by a heavy shading. Sand is shown by a dense surface of dots. L.H. is the abbreviation for lighthouse.

MARSH is shown by horizontal lines with a few vertical strokes.

HEATH is shown by small vertical strokes.



VILLAGES are shown on maps drawn to a scale under 4 inches to a mile by light parallel lines shading the area of the village. On maps drawn to a scale of 4 inches to a mile or larger scale, the position of the houses must be clearly shown, and greater accuracy and more detail is required. The names of towns and villages must be written on the sketch in block letters, thus: **COOLOCK.**

PADRAIC O RIAIN.

(A continuation of this article will appear in next week's issue.)

Hedge-Fighting for Small Units.

OUTPOSTS.

Evidently the fact that a district is hedge-intersected will have a considerable influence on the operations of troops employed on outpost duty in it. And this influence will sometimes be favourable and sometimes the opposite. For instance, the resisting power of pickets is greatly increased by their having the protection and concealment of strong hedges. This is especially the case at night, when the outpost troops will, of course, be quite familiar with the ground, and the attackers will be at a considerable disadvantage in this respect. On the other hand it will frequently happen that the power of observation of the sentry line will be greatly interfered with: their view is often limited by the hedge just beyond the one they are posted at. Of course, the sentries are, to some extent, compensated for this by the fact that they will, as a rule, be able to observe conveniently while remaining perfectly concealed themselves. The difficulty of limited view can be got over by the employment of an efficient system of patrolling, for thus news of the enemy can be obtained while he is still at a considerable distance. From these several points it follows that the outposts in hedge-country will be largely what might be called "combat outposts": they are almost as likely to be required to fight at short notice and close range as to observe. Hence we find one more argument for the need of resolute handling of small well-controlled bodies of men.

INITIATIVE ON A SMALL SCALE.

Countless opportunities will arise for minor commanders to decide quickly and act promptly. In fact, it will be impossible to attain success by any other means. For example, suppose an outlying picket is posted behind a stout hedge awaiting attack by superior forces which reaches the hedge. The Commander of the picket may retire his forces a dozen yards or so and make them kneel down. It will often happen in such circumstances that they will be invisible from the other side of the hedge, and if they are well-disciplined they will be able to pick off their assailants as they struggle through the bushes. In all these minor, detached operations the desirability of offensive action should be urged. A vigorous onslaught by half-a-dozen men will often surprise and confound twice the number. It is in such little encounters that the good Squad leader has his chance. Promotion awaits the corporal who takes in the situation at a glance, lowers his bayonet to the charge, and calls out, **"Follow Me"** to his little command.

CONSTANT PRACTICE.

The only way to become proficient in Hedge-Fighting is by constant training at manœuvres. It is quite possible to get this training in such small units as the country Companies of the Irish Volunteers. In fact, it cannot really be got in larger units, unless the men are previously trained in small ones. As a rule the small Volunteer manœuvres are on a very much higher tactical level than the big ones.

THEORETICAL STUDY.

For higher officers a certain amount of study of battles fought largely or wholly in hedge-intersected country will be useful to teach the handling of larger bodies. In Irish history several of the Wexford battles—Ballinahinch and Aughrim—are deserving of study. In the English Civil War the two battles at Newbury and the battle of Preston are very valuable examples. In continental wars there are two instances—Steinkirk and Wörth—from which some useful lessons can be drawn; because in those two battles the ground was to a certain extent enclosed in parts. The conduct of delaying action, loss and recovery of control, employment of reserves, character of troops most suitable—these are the points to be gathered from the study of such battles.

Defending the Realm in Cork.

IRISH VOLUNTEER ORGANISER CHARGED

ONE SHILLING TO PAY.

There was quite a large assembly of magistrates present on Monday last at Cork, to try a desperate criminal who was charged with the most horrible crimes, to wit: having on January 2nd, at Ballynoe, unlawfully made statements likely to cause disaffection to His Majesty the King, by making reflections upon, and likely to cause disaffection with and hostility to, His Majesty's Government, and statements that he and those acting with him were in a position fully armed and equipped to defy His Majesty's Government. Further, he was charged with having, on the 13th January, at Victoria Road, unlawfully and without lawful authority, had in his possession a certain cypher (quite a Pressque flavour here) adapted for secretly communicating naval and military information.

After the imposing indictment had been read, Dr. Wynne (Crown Solicitor), who prosecuted, proceeded to amplify it with details of the most bloody and brutal kind. The documents found in possession of the prisoner, he stated, would shock the Bench. The prisoner, who had extremely anti-British feelings and extremely pro-German feelings, had delivered a speech at Ballynoe, the real meaning of which was that Mr. John Redmond should be murdered, and also those acting with him, that Mr. O'Brien should be murdered, and he even had feelings of hostility to the Cork Corporation.

But it was of no use. After the magistrates, amongst whom were some of the men threatened with murder, had listened to a mass of documents being read, they fined the prisoner the huge sum of One Shilling. Up to the time of going to press we do not know if this sum has been paid, but decidedly we think that for so much trouble the Crown ought to receive that compensation.

"That we, the members of the Irish Volunteers, Dundalk Corps, tender to our President, Mr. Patrick Hughes, and other members of family, our heartfelt sympathy in the loss they have sustained by the death of their mother."

PHILIP MCQUILLAN,
Hon. Secretary.

THE DUBLIN BRIGADE.

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING 27th FEBRUARY, 1916.

1. Classes as usual.

2. All Lectures for Junior Officers, Tuesday and Saturday, at 8 p.m.

3. The following have been appointed as Batt. Ambulance Officers:—

1st Batt.—G. Mahoney, "C" Coy.
2nd Batt.—H. Ridgeway, "C" Coy.
3rd Batt.—J. Byrne, "C" Coy.
4th Batt.—J. Doutan, "A" Coy.

E. DE VALERA, Brigade Adjt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

All communications re Advertisements to be addressed to the
IRISH PRESS BUREAU,
30 Lower Abbey Street, DUBLIN.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 65 (New Series). SATURDAY, MARCH 4th, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

The "Irish Times" played a very amusing game over the North Louth election. During the contest it printed an inspired paragraph in its London letter, saying that the Irish Party leaders were anxious about the result, and intimating that the support of the Unionist vote for the Party candidate would be very gratifying. It also published a letter from a Mr. Moore, a Unionist, claiming the support of the Unionist voters for the Irish Party nominee. Then when the election of the tried and experienced representative man from a different part of the country was announced, and the family financial difficulty triumphantly settled, and when faction, which received its death-blow in North Louth four years ago at the hands of Mr. Hazleton, had received another final blow at the hands of Mr. Hazleton's nephew, the "Irish Times" turned right round and administered a long editorial lecture to Messrs. Redmond, Dillon and Devlin, on the enormity of endowing their latest young man with £400 a year instead of sending him to fill a gap, avert disgrace from Ireland, and prove that Ireland is, or may yet be, worthy of Home Rule and the Act which rests securely on the Statute Book and guarantees Ireland the right of paying for years to come Eighteen Millions of annual taxation and as much more as may be added in future Budgets. It is all very well for the "Irish Times" to jibe at Mr. Dillon and Mr. Devlin, and to foreshadow the readiness of the Unionists to Limerick the Home Rule treaty when their chance comes. But why did the "Irish Times" make itself the channel of advice to the Unionist voters to vote for the Young Man who ought to be defending the Empire in the trenches? If these things are done in the green wood, what will be done in the dry? Already we have plain enough proofs of the intention to sandbag the men whom Mr. Redmond has induced to man the sandbags. At the same time we read that a man who has previously sat in Parliament as a Liberal is now going forward for a vacant English seat **as a Unionist,** and that his unopposed return is expected.

* * *

Sir Morgan O'Connell writes from Killarney to the London "Times." "Recruiting," he says, "in this county, with a population of 165,000, is dead. Many causes have helped to kill it." Sir Morgan is modest enough to name only one of the many causes. "The open and avowed pro-German, anti-recruiting, Sinn Fein element has been allowed to spread and to spread until every village in Kerry is rotten with it." Sir Morgan thinks that 165,000 is too large a population for Kerry. In Daniel O'Connell's lifetime, Kerry had a population of more than 300,000. Since then some O'Connells have become what Daniel O'Connell used to call "base Whigs." Sir Morgan need not be downhearted. Things are not quite so bad in Kerry as he imagines. The population figures which he gives are those of the Census of 1901. Since then there has been a great improvement. In 1911 the disgraceful surplus has been reduced by another 5,000, and there is no reason to believe that this rate of progress has not been maintained up to date. Altogether, in Sir Morgan's own time, the over-population of Kerry has been reduced by from 40,000 to 50,000. Sir Morgan says that he wrote to the Lord Lieutenant last May warning him to suppress public meetings. He prints the Viceroy's reply, which he plainly thinks unsatisfactory, for he follows up with a ferocious jibe at the Chief Secretary. Perhaps, if the public interest permits and there is no fear of imparting undesirable information to the enemy, now that Sir Morgan has published the Viceroy's reply, the Government will be induced to publish the letter to which that reply was written. Though Kerry is rotten with Sinn Fein, and Sir Morgan from his comfortable home in Killarney writes urging the British Government to dragoon the county as the best means of getting recruits and backing up Mr. John Redmond, whom Sir Morgan commends, the only danger that Sir Morgan lives is in the danger of explosive laughter. Let Sir Morgan console himself with the reflection that all the depopulation he can reasonably expect is provided for by the new taxation of Ireland.

* * *

Right alongside of Sir Morgan's letter, the "Times" happened to print these words in a letter from an eminent English Unionist lawyer, Sir Edward Fry: "We are fighting for liberty abroad whilst we are strangling it at home by a series of enactments which place the liberty of the subject in the hands, not of the Judges, but of the officials of the Government." And Sir Edward Fry quotes the authority of Hallam with reference to Habeas Corpus: "If ever temporary circumstances, or the doubtful plea of political necessity, shall lead men to look on its denial with apathy, the most distinguishing characteristic of our Constitution will be effaced." The Government has found no difficulty in keeping men imprisoned without trial here in Ireland. No matter what Hallam or Sir Edward Fry may say, the Castle lawyers know that "our Constitution" in Ireland is and always has been a Hypocritical Sham.

* * *

One of these lawyers, at the trial of Mr. MacSwiney in Cork, accused him of inciting to the murder of Mr. John Redmond. The Dublin "Independent" printed this accusation as though it had appeared in evidence. Mr. MacSwiney wrote a letter of protest to the "Independent." The Editor printed the letter with an editorial note saying that Mr. MacSwiney's protest was "mendacious." Then Mr. MacSwiney's solicitor wrote to the "Independent" substantiating the protest, and the "Independent" was forced to admit that the evidence produced by the Crown did not prove or attempt to prove that Mr. MacSwiney had said anything suggesting, even in the most remote way, that Mr. Redmond should be molested, much less murdered. We have come upon strange times when Irishmen of the highest character are represented as murderers, and when the answer to their protest is to call them liars. It is all so well calculated to make Ireland fall in love with the true Empire patriotism preached by Mr. Birrell.

* * *

Mr. Drury is the Dublin Stipendiary Magistrate who did his best some time ago, in conjunction with a Castle lawyer, to intimidate a witness in a grossly and scandalously illegal fashion. Last week Mr. Drury tried a young man for the offence of receiving a rifle from a soldier. The evidence, as reported, was practically this: The defendant asked the soldier to get him a rifle. The soldier got him a rifle, and then became a witness for the prosecution. Mr. Drury imposed the **maximum** sentence of six months' imprisonment, giving as his reason that the defendant took up a defiant attitude and produced no witnesses. There is nothing like making the British Government thoroughly popular, and it is a real misfortune that we have not many more Stipendiary Drurys.

* * *

I am beginning to think that, just as the Ulster Conspiracy and the Curragh Conspiracy exploded the Constitution sham, so the apparently successful domination of the Irish Party leaders by the Whig Ministry has benefitted Ireland by bursting up a still more dangerous sham. Mr. Redmond's surrender policy has induced the forces of Whiggery all over Ireland to break cover and to fully expose their position. If the Sharp Curve had been a deep laid strategem for decoying the Whigs into the open, it could not have been more successful. It has, indeed, been "a test to search men's souls," a surprise inspection, and the results of the test are well and fully recorded.

* * *

The Government is borrowing 420 millions to pay for another few months fighting, and is getting ready a new Budget to raise fresh taxes. Ireland is already required to pay ten pounds a house to finance this war, "Ireland's war." Some people may imagine that these taxes will not be required when the war is over. If the Empire was to emerge from the war with all the triumphant success that was prophesied to bulldose the leaders of the Irish Party, the added war-taxes would still be imposed until most of us now alive would be dead and buried. We no longer read about the Allies dictating terms in Berlin, and Mr. Redmond now knows that he was humbugged. That means that the taxes will have to be borne for many decades. Let the beggarman carry his bag. We never asked for this war, and to make us pay for it is sheer robbery. We are told a lot about the grand part that is being played by the Colonies. The people of Ireland would wait long until Mr. Redmond, Mr. Dillon, and Mr. Devlin would stir them up to the fact that while Ireland is being fleeced for the war, the money taken from us is going in large loans to the Colonies to reward and encourage them for their help to the Empire. Oh! they are brave men, and outspoken, and true to Ireland, those leaders! We are denied self-government, and the money taken from us is given to the self-governing Colonies. The Home Rule Act is suspended till St. Patrick's Day.

* * *

The London paragraph-mongers have a new version of the old story about Sir Roger Casement. We were told before that Germany offered Ireland complete independence. Independence sounds better than paying Eight Millions a year, and whatever more is to be added, and getting nothing for it. So the story had to be amended, as if it was a real English treaty signed and registered. The new version says that the Germans wish to annex Ireland for strategic purposes, but will give us Home Rule. Silly Germans! Aren't we going to get Home Rule on Patrick's Day? Having announced this programme to the Irish prisoners, Sir Roger was promptly "mauled" by them. Next time the story appears, it will tell us that the Germans have promised to let us off with Eight Millions of an annual tribute, and that Sir Roger Casement, when he told this to the Irish prisoners, was immediately asphyxiated.

EOIN MAC NEILL.

THE DUBLIN BRIGADE.

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING 5th MARCH, 1916.

1. Classes as usual.
2. Usual Lectures for Officers on Tuesday and Saturday, at 8 p.m.
3. Tuesday, 7th March, will be a closed night for drill, as the Emmet Commemoration Concert takes place on that night.

E. DE VALERA, Brigade Adjt.

Cumann na mBan

Perhaps it will not be unseasonable at this time, when there is so much talk of recruiting, to say a few words on the subject from our own platform. Within the past few months several new Branches of Cumann na mBan have been started, and as "nothing succeeds like success," let us now gather up all our strength for the work that is before us; let us throw in all our efforts and let us bring in everyone we can with us. As individuals we can do much, but far more can we do by forming ourselves into Branches of Cumann na mBan and working towards the one end which we all have so much at heart. The Executive meets every Tuesday at 2 Dawson Street, at 3.30. Their work depends almost entirely on the activities of the Branches, and as they are always ready to direct and attend to the needs of the various Branches, they hope the Secretaries will not be shy in putting before them any questions about the organisation or asking their advice as to any suggestions they may have in furthering the objects for which we stand.

I would advise the Secretary of each Branch to keep the constitution of the organisation constantly before the minds of the members, so that they can see if they are really carrying out what is incumbent on them. Take, for instance this week, one important item of our programme—i.e., the arming and equipment of the Irish Volunteers. Now every Branch of Cumann na mBan ought to put it before themselves to do their share of this with regard to the local corps of Volunteers. Therefore, for this reason alone, it is most important to have Branches of Cumann na mBan all over the country. Existing Branches should send for leaflets, which set forth the aims and activities of Cumann na mBan and which we possess in abundance, and distribute them at church doors and at fairs and markets and all round the country, as they see an opportunity, in order to spread the propaganda. Send up any names and addresses of people who are sympathetic and the Secretary can send down literature and any information required. There are hundreds of ways of forwarding the movement. Set to work seriously and you can do much. A pamphlet setting forth our aspirations is being written, and will shortly be on sale. Put such literature in the hands of your friends who have not yet come into the "firing-line."

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comaírle Ġnóta Féinne Fáil ina n'Dúnpoirt tráthnóna D. Céadaoin an 23ad lá de'n mí seo agus an Ceann Cata Pádraic Mac Piarais ina Cathaoirleach orta.

Do molad suaicheantas an son uirchuireacta agus do haontuigead na coingheallacha air a mbronnfar é. Do haontuigead leis teistear do bronnad air son feabhais i gcéad-chneasugad.

Do haontuigead a raibh rochuigte ag an mBuidhin Ceannuis i gcomhair Lae Féile Pádraic.

Dúnpoirt na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 23 Feab., 1916.

AINMNIGHTE.

SLUAGH ÁTHA CLIATH—AN CÉAD CATH.

An Leas-Chaptaen Proinnsias Ó Dálaigh (Leas-Chaptaen Innealltóirí chum beith ina Chaptaen Innealltóirí).

An tOgslach Liam Ó Siothcháin chum beith ina Leas-Chaptaen Innealltóirí.

AN DARA CATH.

An Ceann Roinne R. Stócar chum beith ina Máighistir Champa Chonganta.

Mise,
PÁDRAIC MAC PIARAIS,
Ceann Catha,
Riaghaidhe an Oghuigthe.

Dúnpoirt na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 23 Feab., 1916.

AN GAEDHEALG.

Dá mhaith leis an mBuidhin Ceannuis dá ndéanfaidh Fianna Fáil an oiread dá ngnó ar Gaedhilg agus ir féidir. Ní Gaedheal go Gaedhilgeoir.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, the 23rd inst., Commandant P. H. Pearse in the chair.

A badge for markmanship was approved of and the conditions on which it will be awarded were agreed to. It was also agreed to award a certificate for proficiency in First Aid.

The arrangements made by the General Staff for St. Patrick's Day were approved of.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson St.,
Dublin, 23rd Feb., 1916.

GENERAL ORDERS.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY, 1916.

1. Every body of Irish Volunteers will, if possible, hold a Church Parade on St. Patrick's Day, March 17th.

2. Brigade and Battalion Commandants will be responsible for the arrangements in their respective Districts. In areas not yet organised as Battalion Districts the Company Commanders will be responsible, and may co-operate with Commanders of adjoining Companies.

3. The Parades may be by Brigade, Battalion, or Company, as the Brigade or other Commanding Officer of a District may determine.

4. After the Church Parade each local command is to carry out a field operation, a march, or some other piece of training, directed or approved by the Brigade or Battalion Commandant, or in the case of smaller units by the Company Commander.

P. H. PEARSE, Commandant,
Director of Organisation.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 23rd Feb., 1916.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

As noted last week, it is the wish of Headquarters that all public holidays should be availed of by Volunteer bodies for the purposes of special training or recruiting work. Being Volunteers, and not professional soldiers, we can as a rule devote only a few hours a week to the business of training ourselves. Whenever a general holiday gives us a chance of pulling up for this necessary handicap we should avail of it. St. Patrick's Day next should see us all in the fields or on the roads. The holiday should first be sanctified by the Church Parade ordered in the General Order published this week. By parading for divine worship as Volunteers, bearing the arms we have won the right to carry, and then by putting in a few hours' hard work perfecting ourselves in the use of those arms, we shall be celebrating St. Patrick's Day in a very holy and wholesome way. If there can be a concert or a ceilidhe in the evening, so much the better. One other word. Let no Volunteer disgrace his uniform by drink.

EQUIPMENT AGAIN.

The list of articles prescribed by Headquarters for the personal equipment of Volunteers which we summarised a fortnight ago contains nothing superfluous. Nevertheless, some of the items in it are more important than others. Next in importance to arms and ammunition come provision for cleaning the gun and provision for carrying the ammunition. Every Volunteer needs a pull-through, flannelette, and oil. They are to be regarded as **indispensable.** In the category of indispensables also is a bandolier or pouch to hold the ammunition. It will not do to carry your ammunition in your pocket: it may wear a hole and fall through. (Volunteer pockets, by the way, should in any case be made very strong: existing pockets in ordinary coats or uniforms can be strengthened with canvas.) Other indispensables are a haversack and a first field dressing. We commend these four items to the attention of Company Commanders this week:—

1. Provision for cleaning Rifle.
2. Bandolier or Pouch.
3. Haversack.
4. First Field Dressing.

NEGLECTING THE OBVIOUS.

We are insisting on these obvious things because we know that so many officers and men are neglecting them. There are some Companies, otherwise well-appointed, whose men have not half-a-dozen pull-throughs between them. We hear of whole districts in which there is hardly a haversack. Portion of a certain expeditionary force during the present war is said to have arrived in the firing line minus its ammunition, because the men had not been provided with pouches or bandoliers, and it had fallen through their pockets! If leather pouches cannot be had everywhere, strong canvas pouches could at least be made. Volunteers should set their wives and mothers and sisters working on these and other items of their equipment.

NIGHT OPERATIONS.

5.—NIGHT ASSAULTS.

Night assaults have, as a rule, proved disastrous to irregular troops, but there have been a few brilliant exceptions. To be on the safe side we would lay it down as a maxim for Volunteers that **night assaults should rarely be attempted by a force larger than a battalion acting against a single objective.**

RECONNAISANCE. The same rules hold as for night advances, which see:—

PREPARATIONS. (1) As the enemy will in all probability counter-attack at dawn, your attack should be timed so as to leave you a few hours of darkness for fortifying the ground you may gain.

(2) A **place of assembly** will be selected beforehand, at which march formations will be abandoned. Its position depends on circumstances—nature of ground, enemy's vigilance, size of force, etc.

(3) A **place of deployment** will also be selected. Here the columns will deploy for attack.

(4) Both the place of assembly and the place of deployment must be easily recognisable at night. From the former position to the latter, and from the latter to the point to be assaulted **compass bearings** should be taken and noted. Distances must also be noted.

(5) If two or more points are to be assaulted care must be taken in selecting the places of assembly and deployment for each, that the different forces do not cross or hamper each other.

(6) A distinguishing mark should be ordered for the troops, and a watchword given. The C.O. and Staff should wear recognisable badges.

(7) Materials and appliances for surmounting obstacles, etc., must be provided.

(8) Rockets, flares, or bonfires may be used as signals for the assault.

PROTECTION. It is considered advisable, to ensure surprise, to dispense with advanced troops. This, of course, is on the assumption that the ground has been thoroughly reconnoitred as already laid down.

FORMATION OF COLUMNS. (1) The troops will be infantry, assisted by engineers, for the removal of obstacles and the fortification of ground gained.

(2) Lines of scouts 80 yards ahead or on the flanks are the best protection before deployment.

(3) At the place of deployment the formation to be used in the assault will be made.

(4) This formation will, of course, vary. We may suggest the following:—

The force is divided into three lines.

The first line moves in line, or in line of Company columns at deploying intervals. (The latter is only advisable for a few of our better-trained units. Connecting files at 10 paces will be required.)

The second line moves in the same formation at 100 yards distance.

The third line follows at 200 yards in any convenient close order formation.

(This subject will be continued.)

Görgei and the Hungarian Army.

III.—ARGUMENTS AGAINST A PREMATURE ADVANCE.

"Troops intended to act on the offensive must be capable of manœuvring; that is to say, each division must have the dexterity to execute the movements ordered in the prescribed time, and in unison with the adjoining divisions. Only a very small part of our army is capable of manœuvring. The few regular troops and one or two Honvéd battalions excepted, it consists of divisions which fall into confusion in the simplest movements on the exercise ground. And they are in general commanded by men who, from their inadequate military knowledge, are calculated only to heighten the confusion when once introduced.

"Every offensive, to be carried on successfully, further requires certain regular supplies for the troops; otherwise it miscarries from their physical weakness. Disciplined troops can be furnished with provisions for several days in advance; not so the undisciplined. It seems burdensome to the National Guard, as well as to the Volunteer, to drag with him his own rations for some days on the march, already toilsome enough without this. He satisfies his present hunger, and sells or gives away the rest, or even, without hesitation, throws it away.

"The offensive requires, finally, troops hardy and accustomed to fight. The majority of ours belong not to this category. On the battle-field two opposing powers contend for the mastery over the steadfastness of the soldier. Honour, patriotic enthusiasm, perhaps also the fear of punishment which the articles of war decree against the cowardly soldier, urge him forward; while the death thundered against him from the enemy's artillery frightens him back. The history of war teaches us that young troops more frequently experience the latter fate.

"As I might, however, be reproached with exaggeration, I will run the risk of a harmless test, the result of which will show us whether we can hazard or not the proposed offensive. Let us issue an order, for instance, that the whole camp be ready to start on the day after tomorrow at five o'clock in the afternoon, and let us convince ourselves how far this order has been executed. If we find the whole camp prepared, though not just precisely at the fixed hour, yet say two hours later, then will I unconditionally vote for the offensive."

Kossuth was evidently displeased with my declaration, and put to me the question: "How high did I estimate the enthusiasm which his address would call forth among the troops?"

"In the camp, and immediately after the address, very high; but after the endurance of hardships, and in presence of the enemy, very low," was my answer.

"Then you think," he asked again, irritated, "that we shall not bring back a single man of our army?"

"For the safety of the National Guard and the Volunteers," I replied, "their nimbleness is to me a sufficient guarantee; but the few good troops which we possess might be ruined by it, and with them the material which we so pressingly need for training up a useful army."

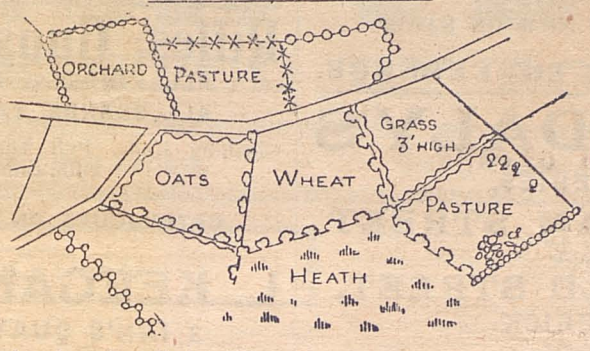
In spite of all Görgei could do, however, it was decided to make the advance. As he had foretold, the greatest confusion, mixing of units, and counter-orders took place on the march, and by the time the unfortunate levies came into presence of the enemy at Schwechat, a little outside Vienna, they were already half beaten.

NA FIANNA EIREANN

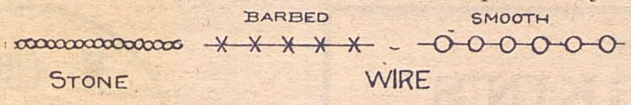
CONVENTIONAL SIGNS (continued).

In a hedge-intersected country like ours, it is important that our scouts should thoroughly understand the use of the different kind of fences, in attack and defence. The value of a bank with a hedge and drain, and its superiority over the plain hedge is obvious to anyone who has spent an hour on manœuvres; it is likewise clear that the bank is better than the hedge as a protection against rifle fire, and so on. A rough sketch showing the fences intersecting the country around, say, an enemy's camp or a position about to be occupied by your own force will often form an invaluable adjunct to the reconnoitrer's report.

FIELDS AND FENCES.

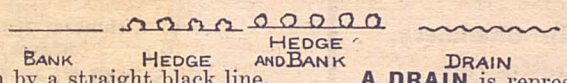


In the above sketch the signs for all the different fences are shown. It is not necessary to write the nature of the cultivation in the sketch, unless it is required for your report.



A STONE WALL FENCE of solid masonry is indicated by the above sign.

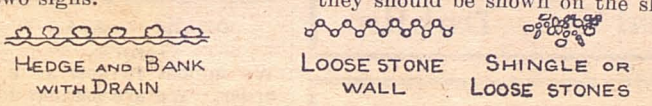
WIRE. Note the different signs for barbed and smooth wire fences.



A BANK is shown by a straight black line.

A HEDGE is drawn without lifting the pencil. Note the difference between a plain hedge and a **HEDGE** and **BANK** represented, as it were, by a combination of the two signs.

A DRAIN is represented by a wavy line, and is drawn on the sketch exactly on the side of the bank or hedge it really is. In many cases drains are on both sides of the fence, and in such cases they should be shown on the sketch.

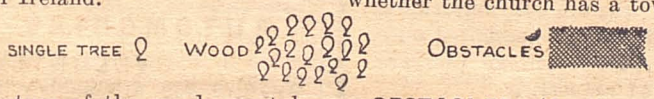


HEDGE and **BANK** with **DRAIN.** Note the combination of signs.

A LOOSE STONE WALL is a common form of fence in the west of Ireland.

SHINGLE, loose stones, or road metal may be represented as shown above.

It is important for the reconnoitrer to note whether the church has a tower or spire.



WOODS. The nature of the woods must be marked in writing on the sketch thus: "PINE," "BIRCH," etc., and whether it is "Passable" or "Impassable" for troops, transport, etc.

OBSTACLES, Abattis, or barricades of any kind are shown by above sign. State in writing the nature of the obstacle.

PADRAIC O RIAIN.

(A continuation of this article will appear in next week's issue.)

Ultimate Defensive Lines in Ireland.

When Napoleon in 1804 assembled his "Grande Armée" along the coast of the English Channel it was thought possible, though scarcely likely, that Ireland might be the intended destination of the French. Several eminent English officers of that time have written memoranda discussing ways and means for the defence of Ireland in such a case. In one of these the author contemplates a series of possible positions for a final stand and basis of reconquest, assuming a pronounced French success. Such, for example, were the cases of Wellington in the Torres Vedras position in Portugal a few years later; the Turks at Chatalja four years ago; and General Sarrail at Salonika at the present time.

In all the cases considered it was assumed that the English fleet would command the sea, and that reinforcements and supplies would be reasonably secure. This assumption had been justified entirely by the experience of former wars in Ireland. As far as the English were concerned they aimed at a position with fairly suitable sea approaches, the flanks resting on the sea or some strong obstacle, and the front short—either in its whole extent or by reason of impassable ground on part of it. Beginning on the North we shall go round the several suggested defensive lines separately.

I.

From Coleraine to Newry, following the Lower Bann, Lough Neagh, the Upper Bann, and the Newry Canal. Part of the scheme was a flotilla of gunboats to maintain command of Lough Neagh. This line is long and not very strong, being entirely a river line and not very large rivers at that. The points of passage are fairly numerous and others could be improvised. Still it is much the best line in the North-East, has fairly good harbour accommodation, fairly good lateral communications, and flanks that could not be turned.

II.

From Donegal to Derry, following the mountains North-West of Derry, the Finn, and the Foyle. This is a much shorter line than the first, equally strong flanks, and covers much better harbours. On the other hand the communications in the entire district are not so good at all, although fairly good in rear of the northern half of the line. In the South the only lateral road is the one through Barnesmore Gap just in rear of the general front.

III.

From Galway to Ballina by Loughs Corrib and Mask, and thence North to Lough Conn and Killala Bay. Flotillas to be stationed on the lakes. This line would require a large force, and in case of necessity the alternative was

IV.

From Galway to Westport only—an immensely strong line, having a land front of little over a dozen miles. The rest is covered by lakes of considerable size with only narrow isthmuses between them. The only defect of this region is that, being mountainous, the roads are comparatively few. There is, however, one good lateral road, well behind the front, from Galway to Westport by Oughterard and Killary.

V.

From Limerick or Killaloe to Kinvarra—covering practically the County Clare. The line being the Shannon, the lower part of Lough Derg and the Slieve Aughty Mountains. This is not a very satisfactory line and would never be taken up by a General who had the chance of selecting IV.

VI.

From Lismore to Limerick. The Blackwater, the Galtees, and the outlying hills of the latter carry the line to within ten miles of Limerick. For a large force this is a formidable line. The area enclosed is large, but the communications are good. Nowadays the railways have vastly improved them. The area covered possesses also many harbours and much natural resources.

VII.

From Wexford to New Ross. This is a twenty-mile line of land front, but the flanks are strong and there is good accommodation for landing reinforcements. In the matter of communications the entire area is thoroughly intersected by a complete network of roads. At the present time the Rosslare-Campile railway adds greatly to the lateral strength of the line, and Rosslare affords much extra reinforcing capacity.

VIII.

From Drogheda to Wicklow. In this case the left flank would rest on the Wicklow Mountains, which would be occupied by detachments only. The main defending army would concentrate in Fingall Plain, being covered in part by the Bog of Allen. This line is by no means strong in itself, but has good landing accommodation and magnificent communications—much superior to anything the assailant would have at his disposal.

Cork Volunteer Officers' Training School.

"A soldier's life the life's for me,
And a soldier's death so Ireland free."

"It beats all my expectations." Such is the Commandant's opinion of the Cork Volunteer Officer's Training School, and when that is so how can a mere Quartermaster describe the pioneers who gathered for a fortnight from the counties of Cork and Limerick to learn not alone the soldier's trade but to perfect themselves in the art of teaching others, and learn all there was in the art of commanding those anxious to fight for a small nationality. No small sacrifice to leave their homes at such a time, but then the chance was there, and when the Cork Corps made the suggestion the response was such as to exceed the most sanguine expectations of the promoters. Even though some failed to come after arranging, enough came to make it possible to keep three squads busy right through the fortnight. An additional number came during the second week, and so delighted with their stay were all that it was with no unfeigned reluctance that all departed from what had proved a most enjoyable and instructive fortnight's training. The improvement in the men was very marked, and the districts which sent men are now provided with instructors fit to put any corps through the necessary drill. Insomuch that during the last week we had the amusing spectacle of a group of the training school officers correcting the Cork City officers' "mistakes" in squad drill, their delight of so doing being but thinly disguised.

The course included a bivouac in what a county paper calls "the Cork Sinn Fein Barracks." Sacks of straw were good mattresses after a good day's work, which began at 7 o'clock and lasted to "lights out" at 11 p.m. A sprint before breakfast helped to get rid of the welcome commodity. Then squad drill and lectures till dinner hour, when the commissariat is again tested. After dinner the course was continued to tea-time, and then the Cork Corps were availed of to test the knowledge acquired. Sundays were availed of to have field operations with the Corkmen. And on Sunday, 30th January, the Training Corps joined with the Cork Corps in paying a last tribute to Volunteer J. O'Sullivan, "A" Coy., Cork Corps, whose obsequies were carried out with full Volunteer honours.

The only drawback was an outbreak of influenza, which necessitated the opening of an infirmary, which worked so effectively that all kept going. The Commandant of the Camp was the only casualty that was effective, and we lost his services during the last stages of the camp, Commandant O'Sullivan, Cork Corps, having to bear the brunt of the last week's work. Though this was a big upset, the work of the school was carried out with eagerness by all concerned, and the men went home satisfied with the improvement in their knowledge and only sorry that the comradeship begotten of such splendid companions could not be continued indefinitely.

On Friday, 28th January, the Cork Cumann na mBan entertained those who attended the Training School to a very enjoyable ceilidh. Miss McSwiney (sister of our felon comrade) welcomed the country officers, and after an enjoyable night's fun the consent of the Commandant was obtained to a return ceilidh, which was held a week later. Both events were enjoyed by all, even the intrusion of the county officers on the city Volunteers' love affairs being forgiven.

The financial side of the camp resulted in a slight loss. Twelve shillings a week was charged for the commissariat, and for this amount a first-class menu was provided daily and done justice to by all. This department was in charge of Quartermaster Tadg Barry, while Captain C. O'Gorman assisted Commandant J. J. O'Connell, of the Headquarters Staff, and Commandant O'Sullivan, Cork, in conducting the various exercises.

Before breaking camp Captain M. Lynch, on behalf of those attending the classes, presented Commandant O'Connell and the Quartermaster with splendid marching boots, in appreciation of their services to the school.

TADG.

EMMET ANNIVERSARY.

The Annual Emmet Anniversary Commemoration, under the auspices of the Wolfe Tone Memorial Association, will be held in the Round Room, Mansion House, Dublin, on Tuesday, March 7th. The commemoration address will be delivered by Mr. Joseph O'Flaherty, Loughrea, and Sean MacDiarmada (Vice-President of the Association) will preside.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Emmet Anniversary CONCERT

COMMEMORATION ADDRESS

(Under the Auspices of the Wolfe Tone Memorial Committee).

ROUND ROOM, MANSION HOUSE, TUESDAY, MARCH 7th, 8 p.m.

DOORS OPEN AT 7.30.

PRICES - - - 3/-, 2/-, 1/-, 6d.

Proceeds will be devoted to the Defence of Ireland Fund.

Artistes from Dublin, Derry, Belfast, Mullingar, Address by Mr. Jos. O'FLAHERTY, Loughrea.

Remember Emmet. Keep alive HIS principles.

DON'T FORGET

THE FIANNA CEILIDHE

Will be held in the **BANBA HALL** this year

ON SATURDAY, MARCH 18th,

Commencing at 9.30 p.m.

TICKETS: 4/- DOUBLE. 2/- SINGLE.

Can be had from any Fianna Officer.

IRISH HISTORY LECTURES.

MARCH 5th—"THE LEINSTER TRIBUTE."

By Cú Ulad.

ADMISSION—THREEPENCE.

Óglaíġ na hÉireann.

BATTALION IV., COMPANY "C"

Will hold

A CEILIDHE in BANBA HALL, ON SATURDAY, 4th MARCH, 1916,

Commencing at 8.30.

TICKETS—DOUBLE, 3/6; SINGLE, 2/6.

"IRELAND FIRST"

and

GRAND CONCERT

Will be held in

BOYS' SCHOOL, SWORDS,

On FRIDAY, MARCH 17th, 1916, at 8 o'clock.

ADMISSION - - 2/-, 1/-, and 6d.

Craoḃ Mic Éil de Connraḋ na Gaeḋilge

26 UPPER BLESSINGTON STREET.

céilíḋ

Saturday, 4th March, '16

COURT LAUNDRY,

58a HARCOURT STREET, DUBLIN.

(Proprietor, H. C. Watson).

Winners of Silver Medal for Fancy Ironing Work, and Diploma for Shirts and Collars at Manchester Laundry Exhibition, 1913. **Post Paid one way on orders of 2/6. For Collars and Shirts only.** Telephone 1848.

WARPIPE BANDS.

VOLUNTEERS, we ask your support when starting Bagpipe or other Bands. We are actual makers in Ireland, and can give you better and cheaper Instruments than those who are merely Importers.

Best Uilean Bagpipes always in stock. Chanter, Bag, and Bellows, **75s.** net.

Wholesale Agent for all publications by Carl Hardebeck. Write for lists.

D. McCULLOUGH

MUSICAL WAREHOUSE,

8 HOWARD STREET, BELFAST.

"Everything that is not Irish must be Foreign."

GLEESON & Co. IRISH GOODS ONLY

Irish Volunteer Tailors and Drapers,

11 UPPER O'CONNELL ST., DUBLIN.

A Gaeḋeala, caḃruiġiḋ le Gaeḋeal!

For real **Bed-rock Value** in **Groceries** and **Confectionery** try

M. O'RIORDAN AND CO.,

1 and 2 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CORK.

TREASON! It is treason for Irishmen to buy the Foreign Article and neglect Irish Industries.

LOUGHLIN'S IRISH OUTFITTING

is better than the Foreign Shirts, Hosiery, Gloves, Braces, Hats, Caps, Boots, etc., etc. ALL IRISH. **Fair Prices.**

IRISH OUTFITTING HEADQUARTERS,

19 Parliament Street, DUBLIN.

RAZORS

Ground & Set

4d. each

Postage 2½d extra

Satisfaction Guaranteed

McQUILLAN,

Tool Merchant,

35/36 Capel St.,

DUBLIN.

"The National Student."

A MAGAZINE OF UNIVERSITY LIFE.

MARCH ISSUE NOW ON SALE.

PRICE - THREEPENCE.

JOHN DALY'S

BAKERIES,

26 WILLIAM STREET

AND

SARSFIELD STREET,

LIMERICK.

All Classes of Feeding Stuffs Stocked.

DON'T FORGET

LARKIN'S

LITTLE SHOP

For Big Value in Chandlery, Tobacco, Cigarettes, etc.

IRISH GOODS A SPECIALITY.

Wexford St., Dublin.

. . Rings . .

EVERY FACILITY for choosing exactly the ring you require is offered at **GANTER BROS.** Almost unlimited selection. No hurry, no rush, no pressure. Catalogue free on request.

GANTER BROS.,

63 South Great George's Street, DUBLIN.

EQUIPMENT CHEAP.

Haversacks, Knapsacks, Belts, Water-bottles, Puttees, Military Coats (second-hand), Entrenching Shovels, Ammunition Pouches, Army Cord and Serge Breeches (new and second-hand), Revolver Holsters (new and second-hand), Marching Boots, Mess Tins. Oil, Cleaning Outfits, Knives.

SEE PRICE LISTS.

LAWLER'S, 2 Fownes's St. Dublin

We are an exclusively "IRISH FIRM" employing only IRISH LABOUR.

All garments made to order in our own workshops. **EXTENSIVE STOCK** to select from, bought for **CASH** from best **IRISH MANUFACTURERS.**

SUITS, 42s. to 84s.

The Irish Tweed House :: CASH TAILORING CO.

(John Neligan, Manager),

4 CAPEL STREET, DUBLIN,

and 50 Upper George's Street, Kingstown.

For the Institution, the Mansion or the Cottage.

You are invited to inspect our stock of

CLOSE FIRE KITCHEN RANGES

before ordering elsewhere. We guarantee them to cook perfectly, and to be economical in fuel. Our prices are right.

GLEESON, O'DEA & Co., Ltd.,

21 & 22 CHRISTCHURCH PLACE.

Estimates free. Telephone: Dublin 261.

1782——1913.

VOLUNTEERS' BOOTS.

Best ever produced for comfort and ease in marching. Made in my own workshops by skilled Irishmen, under Trade Union conditions.

Price 15/6. Reduction for Companies.

J. MALONE,

67 NORTH KING STREET, DUBLIN.

Miss E. MacHugh

"63" Talbot Street, DUBLIN.

Lucania, Pierce, Swift, Rudge, B.S.A. New Bicycles. Cash. Easy Payments.

Repairs. Accessories. Second-hand Bicycles from 25/-. Prams and Gramophones Repaired.

THE 'SPARK'

A GEM of a Journal

Vol. II, 108 pages & photo of Roger Casement, post free 1/1½. order from any newsagent or the MANAGER, 'SPARK,' 4 Findlater Place, Dublin

---

Rifles. Guns. Repairs.

ALL KINDS .22 AMMUNITION.

ALL BOARDS, TARGETS.

Cleaning Rods, Pull Throughs, Oils, and all Rifle Sundries.

CATALOGUES ON APPLICATION.

L. KEEGAN, Gun and Rifle Maker

3 INN'S QUAY, DUBLIN.

Telephone 2574.

W. CHASE

Tobacconist, Stationer, Fancy Goods, Chandler AND General Hardware Stores,

115 Parnell St. DUBLIN.

"An Scát a Ceile Seaḋ Maiṙiḋ na Daoine,"—a Gaeḋeala:—

We appeal to you as a Gael only for a trial order. We are certain to give you satisfaction.

LADIES' AND GENT'S TAILOR.

Páḋraig Ó Boḋléir,

2 LOWER ORMOND QUAY.

AUTOMOBILE SCHOOL.

VOLUNTEERS,

We give you a Complete Practical Course in Motor Car Driving, Mechanism, and repairs for **2 GUINEAS.**

Up-to-date-Cars. Certificate when competent.

4 Dartmouth Place, Ranelagh Road, DUBLIN.

CAHILL'S

MAGIC BLOOD PURIFIER, 1/- & 2/-.

Removes Pimples, Spots, Skin Eruptions, cools the blood, regulates the system.

ARTHUR J. CAHILL,

The National Chemist,

82a LOWER DORSET STREET, DUBLIN.

VOLUNTEERS! Send your Shirts, Collars, &c.

TO THE

NATIONAL LAUNDRY,

60 South William Street, DUBLIN.

SUITS AND UNIFORMS CLEANED AND PRESSED IN TWO DAYS.

Irish Made Shirts, Caps, Poplin Ties, Collars, Hosiery, etc.

THE BEST VALUE FOR CASH IN LIMERICK.

Páḋraig Ó n-Allmuráin,

Draper,

10 WILLIAM STREET, LIMERICK.

Gaeḋil ir eaḋ rinn-ne

Ir ní náir linn é.

Give us a trial order for **FRESH IRISH OATMEAL, MACROOM OATMEAL, TEAS,** from **2/4 to 3/-. Sent Post Free.**

MacCURTAIN BROS.,

52-54 SHANDON ST. and 40 THOMAS DAVIS ST., CORK.

The Munster Furnishing Co.,

11 GT. GEORGE'S STREET, CORK.

JOHN JENNINGS, Proprietor.

All kinds of Household Furniture—

IRISH MANUFACTURE.

CITY CLUB CIGARETTES. 10 for 4d.

TRY THEM.

P. Conway & Co.

TOBACCONISTS,

31 Exchequer Street and 10a Aungier Street.

Established 1894.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 66 (New Series). SATURDAY, MARCH 11th, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

The Home Rule cheque was signed a year and a half ago. The story of what went on about it between the outbreak of the war and the signing of the cheque has not been revealed to the people of Ireland by those who took upon themselves to act as Ireland's plenipotentiaries,—a power which was never conferred on them. There were private meetings and Cabinet meetings. The opponents of Home Rule carried the day, except in so far as the Home Rule Bill was not completely abandoned. The cheque was signed and postdated for twelve months. Then the self-constituted plenipotentiaries, having been forced to yield because they took it on themselves to put their cause at the mercy of secret negotiations and kept the knowledge of what was going on from the people of Ireland, were forced to come out in public and declare that their demands had been conceded—when they had not been conceded. Ireland, they declared, must now pay the price, a price that Ireland had never before heard of, for that which was hers by right, and which these same men had always claimed as a national right and a measure of justice.

* * *

"Justice shall not be denied or sold or delayed." The chief offenders are those British Ministers who had pledged their honour to carry through this measure of justice, and had already accepted on that faith the support of the Irish Party and of the electorate behind the Irish Party. Already they had partly gone back on their pledges, and their success in forcing a partial surrender on their Irish allies encouraged them to go farther in the same path of dishonour. It was these men, Mr. Birrell and his colleagues, that delayed justice and held it up for sale.

* * *

What, let us ask, would have happened if, within the first two months of the war, Mr. Asquith, Mr. Birrell, and the other Liberal Ministers who were not secretly opposed to Home Rule, had said: "Our honour is pledged to Mr. Redmond, our terms of agreement are public, they are embodied in the Home Rule Bill, they are not a Hypocritical Sham, the British Democracy supports them; and now in this unparalleled Imperial crisis we, who claim to be devoted not only to the British Empire but also to the cause of European liberty and of the smaller nations, insist on the fulfilment of our contract without further conditions and without further delay?" Who could have prevented them? Would the Unionists have ventured either to renew the conflict in Great Britain or to have carried out their threat of violence in Ireland, in the midst of the Imperial crisis? Could they have denounced Mr. Redmond for claiming at least the immediate fulfilment of the agreement by compromise embodied in the Home Rule Bill?

* * *

What these men did, who talk to us of honour and loyalty, was to make a compact with the enemies of Home Rule, and to force that compact upon Mr. Redmond. They said in effect to Mr. Redmond, "We will not fulfil our agreement with you. You are powerless to insist upon it. In three months' time, or six months, or nine months at the outside, we shall be sitting in Berlin dictating our will to the world. You and your puny nation are in no position to demand anything, even though it has been already agreed upon. That agreement no longer holds. The conditions we now offer you are these: the Home Rule Bill will receive the royal assent, but its operation will be suspended until we come back from Berlin. Before it can come into effect, your opponents, the Unionists, will have full opportunity of altering the terms of the Act by means of an amending Act. In the meantime, you shall assist us to the utmost in the prosecution of the war. You shall do your utmost to raise an army for us in Ireland, to stifle the discontent that these terms will naturally arouse in Ireland, and to aid us in imposing fresh taxes upon Ireland for the purpose of the war. Otherwise, you must plainly understand that the Home Rule Bill will have to be abandoned."

* * *

Mr. Redmond yielded to the defenders of treaty obligations and of small nationalities. Having yielded, he tried to make the case that he was bound and that the Irish electorate were bound by some previous understanding to accept these terms. He has never been able to state on what occasion any body of Irishmen bound themselves by any such understanding. He has since been forced to go farther and to lay down that Ireland is bound by an honourable understanding to send every available man to fight for the Empire, because Home Rule has reached its present position. The truth is that not even the English people understood, until the war was upon them, that they would be asked to raise an army on a continental scale in order that they might satisfy the expectations of their allies and still keep their naval strength unimpaired. Therefore it is untrue to everybody's knowledge and cannot possibly be true that Ireland understood any such obligation, express or implied, even upon the full concession of her national rights, not to speak of the present ignominious position of the Home Rule Act.

* * *

The cheque for Home Rule was post-dated to September 17th, 1915—and the new terms were forced upon Mr. Redmond. In September, 1915, Mr. Asquith had not yet reached Berlin, and the cheque was again post-dated to St. Patrick's Day, 1916. St. Patrick's Day is coming, and Mr. Asquith does not expect to be in Berlin by then. So the English Privy Council met some days ago, King George presided, and the Home Rule cheque was post-dated to September, 1916. But the day of our National Apostle is to be celebrated in Dublin by an Imperial flag collection, and by that day twelvemonth the Imperial tribute collectors in Ireland will be expected to have raked in an additional Eight Millions of war taxes. They will also have to rake in whatever fresh taxes will be imposed under the Budget now in preparation. It looks as if the principal duty of an Irish Government under the Home Rule Act is to be the collection of Imperial taxes. Never was such a legislative mess contrived as the present position of Home Rule.

* * *

A crowded meeting held last week in the Dublin Mansion House to protest against the plunder of Ireland was practically boycotted by the "Irish" daily papers, which make a harvest out of war advertisements. The state of funk to which the Unionist Press is reduced on the taxation question is attested by the "Irish Times," which was afraid to tell its readers that such a meeting was held. The Unionists have managed to hold an extra big share of all the good things that Imperial government has left us, and it is a slight offset to the robbery of the nation to know that the hangers-on of Predominant Partnership stand in danger of being the most severely fleeced. The big whigs that pretend to be Nationalists of a sort are in the same case. If it was not for the Nation's loss, we might say "Devil's cure to them."

* * *

"Can the Empire spare this man to the **parish pump politics** of a single nation? Why narrow his mind, and to Ireland give up what was meant for mankind?" These are the words of the Home Rule Liberal "Review of Reviews" for March, 1911. They represent the sympathy of the English Liberals for Irish nationality and for Irish self-government. They are the last words of a long and highly eulogistic "character sketch" of an Irish politician. The Empire is for mankind. Ireland for the parish pump. Remark the flattery and the well-laid temptation. "This man" then seemed a danger, he was an unknown quantity. Mr. Redmond and Mr. Dillon are handled in the same article, but the Liberals knew all about them. They are no longer anxious about Mr. Devlin, for he is the man whom in 1911 they were trying to secure for the Empire and to inspire with contempt for the parish pump politics of Irish Nationality. They now have him, and Mr. Redmond and Mr. Dillon with him, helping them to plunder, ruin and depopulate Ireland for the benefit of mankind!

* * *

I pointed out recently that, since "Ireland will be eternally disgraced" and will be "unworthy of Home Rule" and double taxation "unless the gaps in Irish regiments are filled up by Irishmen," then the bigger the gaps are made the greater will be Ireland's disgrace and her unworthiness for Home Rule. At a recruiting meeting the other day the Earl of Fingall quoted a letter he had received from an Irish officer, who said that of 1,000 men he took out to the war there were only 100 left. The things that Mr. Redmond has to say seem a bit hard on the other 900.

The London "Times" of last Saturday had another inspired article on the Irish Volunteers, who, says the inspired writer, are drawn from three groups: "a small nucleus of bitter, sincere, and clever malcontents; a much larger number who say, and perhaps believe, that this is not Ireland's war, because **they have been disappointed about Home Rule**; and a still larger number who profess the doctrines of Sinn Fein as an excuse for the selfishness or apathy that keeps them from joining the Colours." There were thought to be Irish Volunteers before the war, but that may have been a mistake. "The best Irish opinion," says the inspired writer," is uneasy about the Government's policy of "laisser faire." The best Irish opinion, then, must be a very hole-and-corner sort of thing with a particular love of anonymity. If it wants the Government to declare war in Ireland, why is the best Irish opinion afraid to put its name to its demand? The "Times" would not refuse its columns to a list of names of those who constitute its best Irish opinion, and would thus relieve them of the stigma cast upon them by its special writer.

* * *

Dublin Castle instructed its legal representative in Cork to suggest a charge of inciting to the murder of Mr. Redmond against an Irish Volunteer organiser, but failed to produce any evidence in support of the charge. The game is obvious enough. The Castle wants the Irish question to take the convenient form of a faction fight. It played that game in Limerick, and got a special report for it in the English papers. It played it in Tyrone. Its recruiting officers played it all over Kerry, and Sir Morgan O'Connell says that now "every village in Kerry is rotten with Sein Fein"—the printer will please leave Sir Morgan's German uncorrected. So, in order to blood up Mr. Redmond's supporters, the Castle invents an incitement to murder Mr. Redmond, trusting that they will not notice that no witness could be got to swear to the invention. Mr. Birrell may make up his mind that the Irish Volunteers will not lay a finger on Mr. Redmond. It is the Burglar that they are looking out for. Mr. Redmond may even stand on his masters' platform and insult us to please them, to further their game of faction making, and to encourage their "Defence of the Realm" performances. The Irish Volunteers will not lose sight of their one and only purpose.

* * *

The inspired writer in the "Times" does not fail to take a hand in the game. The "Times" gives him a heading in capitals, "FURY WITH MR. REDMOND," and this good Unionist says: "Mr. Redmond's strong hand in favour of recruiting has infuriated the Sinn Feiners." I must admit that I have heard a chorus of youngsters in Dublin publicly singing their intention to "hang John Redmond on a sour apple tree," and that the "infuriated Sinn Feiners," several thousand of them, actually laughed to hear this doom pronounced. "The wrath of the Sinn Feiners is unbounded," says the inspired one, "and he is abused in nearly every issue of their weekly newspapers with all the tropical luxuriance of Celtic imagery." The sneer at the Celt shows us in what circle the writer gathers "the best Irish opinion." It follows a sentence in which he praises Mr. Redmond's sincerity and courage. At the same time the Best Irish Opinion is thinking night and day about giving Mr. Redmond Limerick when there is no further use for him, and is counting confidently on the help of the Best English Opinion. Wait and see! There is another sneer of the Best Irish Opinion at "the impish tendencies of the Celtic character," and another sneer at "the Irish peasant," the farmer's son. Very sincere and courageous is the anonymous admirer of Mr. Redmond's sincerity and courage, as he waits for the time to sandbag Mr. Redmond.

EOIN MAC NEILL.

THE DUBLIN BRIGADE.

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING 12th MARCH, 1916.

1. The Musketry Class will not be held this week. Other Classes as usual.
2. Lecture for Officers on Saturday, 8 p.m.
3. On St. Patrick's Day, March 17th, there will be a Church Parade and Inspection of Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comaírle Ghnóta Féinne Fáil ina nDúnport tráthnóna D. Céadaoin an lá ó ve'n mí ro agus Éamonn Ceannt ina Cathaoirleach orta.

Do rocruiġeaḋ a lán neiṫe ag baint le hOrduġaḋ, le himṫeacṫaiḃ na dTimṫirí, ɁC.

Dúnport na Féinne,
Áṫ Cliaṫ, 1 Márt., 1916.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, the 1st inst., Mr. E. Kent in the chair.

Various arrangements were made in connection with organisation, the movements of Organisers, etc.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 1st March, 1916.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

The Brigades and Battalions everywhere have entered with spirit into the views of Headquarters with regard to St. Patrick's Day. There will be Church Parades on a large or on a small scale in a great many centres. Manœuvres or recruiting marches will occupy the men during the day, and in the evening there will be concerts and social rallies of one sort or another. The Parades ought to be utilised by Commanding Officers for the inspection of equipment. Each man (unless otherwise ordered) should turn out with arms, ammunition pouch or bandolier, and haversack. Where the men have knapsacks these also should be carried. The officers should regard the mobilisation as a test of the men's readiness, and remember that the readiness of their equipment requires to be tested as well as the men's personal readiness. Such important matters as cleaning apparatus for rifles should not be lost sight of on an occasion like this. Officers and men should get into the **habit** of turning out with all the essentials of field service, apart from the more ponderous impedimenta which would need special means of transport. And even the special means of transport should be tested a few times a year.

HEADGEAR.

Our Volunteer cap has certain advantages and certain disadvantages. As to the advantages, the chief is that it is smart-looking. As to disadvantages, among other obvious ones, it affords no protection from sun and rain to the back of the head; it is conspicuous, and therefore not very good for taking cover; and, if removed from the head, it is from its shape difficult to stow anywhere. On the whole, it is believed that a fairly wide-brimmed felt hat of the type worn by the Canadians, Australians, and South Africans is a more serviceable headgear for field work. Such a hat should, of course, be as nearly waterproof as possible, and this consideration bars out the cheaper sorts of soft hats. Headquarters would long ago have prescribed an official hat in substitution for the cap only for the difficulty of getting a manufacturer to turn out the article required in sufficient quantities. In point of fact, no Irish manufacturer seems willing or able to undertake the thing. It has therefore been found desirable to issue an Order merely in general terms, but the order is an important one and should be obeyed everywhere. It is to the effect that each Volunteer is to provide himself with a broad-brimmed felt hat of a neutral colour (preferably grey-green) and that this is to be worn for field work or when specially ordered by a Commanding Officer. In many cases the hat which the Volunteer wears in everyday life will do very well.

OTHER THINGS.

There are some other items of personal equipment which Volunteers should look after for themselves. Good, strong, comfortable boots are one. Battles have been lost because the soldiers were not well-shod. A change of shirt and of socks and a spare handkerchief or two should be in the marching kit of every Volunteer. A clasp-knife, a scissors, pins, boot-laces, matches, a pocket torch or even a stump of candle, a lead-pencil, a notebook,—not one of these will be in the way, and every one of these will be useful. Cyclists should not forget pump and repairing outfit. And every man should have his First Field Dressing, and every Company a supply of splints and larger bandages. The getting of such things together is as much a part of the training of Volunteer officers and men as is their foot-drill or their bayonet exercise.

WINNING OUT.

The Director of Organisation has, within the past three weeks, visited the Waterford, Limerick, Tralee, Enniscorthy, and Belfast Battalions and conferred with the Commanding Officers. The spirit everywhere is splendid, training proceeds apace, and equipment is being completed. In every area visited the local Battalion is stronger numerically, better trained and armed, and noticeably more popular and influential in the community than on the occasion of similar visits last year. In each of the towns named the Irish Volunteers have literally won out as far as Nationalist public opinion is concerned.

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

LA TRIOMPHE.

Tired and dirty, Cornelius Cannon stood in a ditch and shouted directions to the still more tired and dirty men who constituted his section and who were busy strengthening and loop-holing the hedge in front. The men of the supporting section, having finished their work of preparing the foreground, were filing through a gap in the hedge and making for their own hedge in the rear. Cornelius was annoyed to see that they had cut down a tree he had hoped to use as a range-guage while he had been too busy swearing at his men to notice. In the distance he could hear sporadic firing, which showed that the advanced troops were already engaged. The hedge being now more or less adapted to his satisfaction, he ordered his men to cease work and resume their tunics. Each man made himself comfortable by his own loophole, and Cornelius sat down to take a well-earned rest. As an afterthought he detailed a couple of men to heap up some jagged stones in a convenient place.

* * *

The sound of firing came nearer, and a stray bullet broke a branch above a man's head. "Wish I was in support," muttered the man. Cornelius was wishing the same, for he put no great reliance on his section. His best squad leader—one Muldoon, a hard-chaw—had been taken away to train recruits, and six of his best men were acting as Section Commanders in newly-raised units. Their places had been taken by raw young Volunteers who had merely been trained how to sight, the staff not being prepared to waste ammunition in teaching them to shoot. He looked anxiously at two conscripts who did not seem at all comfortable, and thought grudgingly of his three best shots, the only men in his section who had magazine rifles, who had been thrown forward with a thin line of other snipers to harass the advancing enemy from hedge to hedge and lure him to his destruction against the one which Cornelius was swearing.

* * *

Nearer came the firing. A running Volunteer appeared in the foreground and made for the gap which had been left for the fatigue party and which Cornelius had forgotten to close. It was young Kelly, one of the snipers. "Where are the others?" asked Cornelius. "H—ll" said self in the line. "Main attack seems to be coming this way," he said. "So we've heard," said Cornelius, "but I'll pass your information on to confirm it."

* * *

Cornelius looked along the lines of "Y" Battalion, sizing up the men who were to bear the brunt of the fight. His own section was a sample of the whole. He had fourteen men left. One, Kelly, had a magazine rifle; six had Martinis; three had Howth guns; the rest had shot guns. Cornelius issued his orders. "Kelly, you can start firing at 400 if you have a target; Martinis, you hold your fire till they reach that bush at 220; the rest, wait for point blank. Anyone firing wildly will get the rifle-butt. Murphy, keep your infernal head down." Somewhere up the line a few rifles went off. "That's that weak-kneed idiot Mooney," mused Cornelius. "He never could keep his men in order." And, louder, "Let's have none of that in this section." The section grinned.

* * *

Half an hour later. The line was thin, but had been thinner, for some of the supports had been sent up to fill the gaps. There was a pause in the firing. A firing position to the left had been fought for and lost. Cornelius had seen a counter-attack by two companies of pikemen crumple up. Nobody came back. Now suddenly right in front of him the enemy broke cover and came on with a rush. He watched the long dense seething line, fascinated. Kelly, wounded, was firing slowly. Then came the crack of Martinis and the boom of Howth guns. One of the shot-gun men pulled a futile trigger. Cornelius woke up and cursed furiously. The line came on. "Now, boys." The shot guns joined in the fray. Next minute the enemy was raging among the barbed wire and bushes.

* * *

The wave had gone back, but only temporarily. Cornelius thanked his stars and the thickness of the hedge. But in a short time machine-guns had been turned on that stout defence, and after a lavish expenditure of ammunition thinned it out. The firing line of the defenders was also thinned, and again the enemy came on.

* * *

At it, hand-to-hand in the ruins of the hedge. run, but are met by Cornelius and his rifle-butt. Some of the enemy are now through the hedge, and help does not seem forthcoming. A despairing glance round shows a distant force advancing. "Can we hold them off till they come?" Cornelius doesn't know what to do. He looks round again. The Local Reserve is nearer; it is hurrying. "Give them something to do while they're waiting, anyhow," he says. He blows his whistle. "Come on!" He rushes through the hedge at the worst of the gaps, and the relics of "Z" Company rushes in behind him. Bent rifles and twisted shot-guns are whirling desperately. By the time the Company has been annihilated the counter-attack has come home.

* * *

Just an imaginary picture of hedge-fighting by one who has never seen it. But it **might** work out that way—more or less.

Cumann na mBan

There are a few questions I should like to put before the members of Cumann na mBan and the other women of Ireland this week. Let them form the subject of meditation for the next few days and I am sure they will arrive at the conclusions that every Irishwoman of sense and judgment must inevitably come to at the present time:—

(1.) Wherefore have we Irish Volunteers?

(2.) Is the present year 1916 going to have any more significance for the Irish Volunteers than all the years to follow?

(3.) Is the fate of the Irish Volunteers and the issue of their achievements a matter of indifference to the Cumann na mBan?

(4.) Can the Cumann na mBan do anything to shape the destinies of the Irish Volunteers?

REPORTS FROM BRANCHES.

A great many of the Branches have decided to hold a flag-day for Cumann na mBan, and we except that it ought to serve as splendid propaganda, besides swelling the purse of the organisation.

As usual, we have received a very satisfactory report from the Belfast Branch. To add to their many activities they are now starting a class for Semaphore Signalling. They are making a minute study of the rifle, cleaning and using it. Their First Aid Classes are going on vigorously. They have just held a Rifle Raffle, and the proceeds are sufficient to purchase an ambulance outfit. Into the bargain they have kindly been returned the rifle for the use of the members of Cumann na mBan. A Cycling Corps is being formed next month, for First Aid convenience, scouting and signalling purposes. The balance of the Whist Drive held on January 25th went to the Defence of Ireland Fund.

ST. PATRICK'S NIGHT CONCERT.

The National Festival will be fittingly celebrated by the great Irish Concert organised for the Rotunda Rink. The Committee in charge has secured the services of some of the best Irish-Ireland artistes, and a highly enjoyable programme, including some items not hitherto heard on the National concert platform, has been drawn up. The function will be well worth attending if only for the address by a well-known Irish-Ireland priest, one of the younger men who may be relied upon to carry on the virile tradition of the Wexford '98 priests and of the veteran Father Matt Ryan of our own day. The function is being organised by the Committee of the Central Branch, Sinn Fein, who have decided to allot one-third of the proceeds to the equipment fund of the Dublin Brigade, Irish Volunteers. The charges for admission are 3s., 2s., 1s., and 6d. Tickets for the 3s. and 2s. seats may be secured in advance at the Sinn Fein Bank, 6 Harcourt Street. Doors open at 7 p.m.

NA FIANNA EIREANN

CONVENTIONAL SIGNS (Continued).

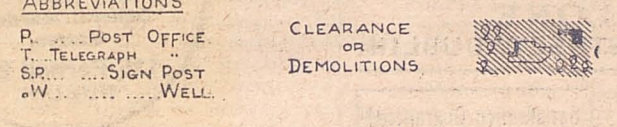
The remainder of the signs used in field sketching are printed below. Elementary field sketching should be carried out in conjunction with map-reading. Scouts are not expected to be able to draw perfectly accurate field maps. All that is required of them is to be able to illustrate on paper the position held by an enemy, or to draw a rough sketch of the roads, between one point and another, sufficiently clear that anyone of ordinary intelligence might follow easily. Although, in actual work, it is only necessary to draw your maps roughly to scale, yet, in the initial stages of your practice they should be drawn as accurately as possible. Until you are expert in judging distance you should check your estimates by pacing.

When you are able to draw a sketch-map fairly accurately you should practise field sketching from memory. That is, to be able to draw a map, on your return home, after reconnoitring a piece of country. It requires persistent practice to be able to do this with some degree of accuracy.

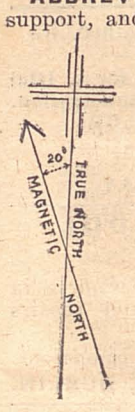
It is important for the reconnoitrer to note whether the church has a tower or spire.

TROOPS. The unit and strength must be shown alongside the sign for troops. The sign need not be drawn to scale. The direction which a patrol of scouts takes should be indicated by an arrow.

TRENCHES. The sign shown above is used to indicate artificial entrenchments, and not the natural trench afforded by a bank and hedge, etc.



ABBREVIATIONS. In outpost sketches the letters P, S, R may be used for the words piquet, support, and reserve.



NORTH POINT. The magnetic variation is shown by the sign. The true North line is marked by a star or cross, and the magnetic North line by an arrow.

SETTING A MAP. To set a map simply means to lay it out so that the North line on the map points to the true North. When a map is set, it will correspond exactly with the ground it represents, and is then much easier to identify the various points on the ground shown by the map.

There are many methods by which a map may be set, with or without a compass.

(a) With a compass.—Hold the compass steady and move the map until the magnetic line on the map points exactly in the same direction as the needle of the compass.

(b) Without a compass.—Identify your own position on the map and call it A; also another object which you call B. Draw a pencil line on the map from A to B. Turn the map so that A points towards your position and B directly at the second object.

There are many other ways of setting a map, as for instance, by means of a watch and the sun, the Pole Star, or by comparing outstanding objects on the ground, or the country generally, with the map.

FOR NEW COMPANIES.

LETTER III.

HOW TO CARRY OUT THE PROGRAMME OF TRAINING GIVEN LAST WEEK.

A CHARA,

In my first letter I warned you not to waste time on close order drill. Now this does not mean that drill is to be cut right out; on the contrary, you will see by the programme I suggested last week that I recommended that every night's work should begin with close order drill, lasting about 15 or 20 minutes. This is essential for the proper discipline of the Company; it gives men the habit of obeying orders promptly and accurately, and at the same time gives the commander an opportunity of learning how to handle his men. Without a thorough good course in drill the best and most enthusiastic men in Ireland, or anywhere else, are nothing but a mob. So when I say that your men probably know enough close order drill you will understand that no time is to be wasted in teaching them the beauties of Battalion drill or such like, but neither are they to be allowed to forget the Section and Company drill they know, and forget with it the lessons of discipline it stands for. It is true that close order drill is very little use in face of the enemy, but remember that drill is only a means to an end. The end is Discipline.

EXTENDED ORDER.

Far different from drill is the work I suggested for the third twenty minutes of the first week's training. Extended order is often erroneously called "extended order drill." No greater mistake could be made. Extension is a tactical exercise, an elementary manœuvre. Drill trains men to obey orders. Extension, as far as it goes, teaches men how to fight. You should explain that to your men; tell them that while orders are always to be obeyed promptly, in extension the same precision and regularity of movement is not necessary and should not be aimed at. Your explanation might continue thus:—

Extension is **necessary** on account of the **long range** of modern firearms. It is used to approach within striking distance of a **well armed** enemy **by day;** this is done by sending forward a succession of extended skirmish lines to build up a firing line. Two considerations govern the extension: 1. **Enemy's fire;** 2. **Nature of ground.** The good point about extension is that it enables a force to advance with the minimum loss of men and discipline, while its only drawback is, it weakens control and fire effect. The conclusion from this last consideration is that the extension should be as little as is absolutely necessary.

In training men in extended order they should be accustomed—

1. To work in pairs at any interval.
3. To work by sections.
4. To advance by ragged rushes, 2 by 2, creeping or doubling according to the nature of the ground.
5. To keep correct interval, not to crowd or scatter.
6. To take cover, choosing it in advance.
7. To obey promptly the commands of the Section Commander, and, if he is put out of action, to continue the advance.
8. If retirement is necessary, to keep cool and retire by Sections.

In conclusion, I would suggest that before attempting this work with your men, you should study the articles on Field Training in THE IRISH VOLUNTEER of April 1st, 17th, 24th, and May 1st and 8th, 1915. Turn them up on your file, or if you haven't got a file, send to Headquarters for back numbers.

Next week I shall explain some other branches of the programme.

A NEW "TRACT FOR THE TIMES."

Mr. P. H. Pearse's "Ghosts" appeared last week as No. 10 of "Tracts for the Times." On sale everywhere at a penny. Wholesale from Whelan & Son, 17 Upper Ormond Quay.

LANGUAGE WEEK.

A Conference of Workers in the Gaelic League of Dublin will be held in the Oak Room, Mansion House, on Friday, March 10th, at 8 p.m. The Coiste Ceanntair asks all city craobhacha to be well represented at the meeting, and it invites friendly organisations to send as many of their members as may be willing and able to give us active assistance in the Language Collection.

SEAN MAC GIOLLANATHA, Secretary.

Görgei and the Hungarian Army.

IV.—THE DISGRACEFUL SCENES AT SCHWECHAT.

The following describes a grievous blunder by the raw Hungarian Staff on the eve of the battle of Schwechat, which had far-reaching results:—

"Scarcely had darkness quite set in, when the officer of the General's Staff, Nemegyei, present with our left wing, saw visions which, with a rare scrupulosity and to our no little trouble, he committed to paper, 'that we had already been turned.' The Raab scythe-bearers, consisting of several thousands, were immediately sent thither from the reserve for the security of the left wing. They reached the camp of my brigade without accident. From us they had, perhaps, still half an hour's march to the ideally-menaced point: but the ordnance officer of the left wing, who had been appointed to conduct them thither, lost the direction, and led them circuitously about during several hours, till at last they stopped from sheer exhaustion, and left to Nemegyei alone the unequal combat with the spectral turning-column of the enemy.

"Insignificant as this incident seemed to be, it actually exerted an important influence on the disgraceful issue of the approaching battle. The troops of almost the whole centre, but especially those of its left wing—my brigade—were already, early in the morning of the 30th, physically exhausted, morally shaken. They had had no rest, and were quite unable to resist the fatal effects of the terrible rumours of the preceding night. As I had foretold, I saw the enthusiasm, which had really been very vividly kindled by the President's fine speeches in the Parendorf Camp, already on the point of extinction. We had lost the battle before it had begun."

In the battle some Hungarian battalions came unexpectedly under fire. "By his first shots he at once threw my battalions into irremediable confusion. The Gömör National Guards ran away first. These were followed by the Honter Volunteers, after they had overturned their commander, horse and all, in his endeavours to stop them. . . . I had not observed what was taking place in the first Pesth battalion. I now found it also already in confusion; and its commander, the National Guard Major, Count Ernest Almássy, almost beside himself with exhaustion, in consequence of his strenuous efforts to keep his men together. . . . Captain Gózon, of the battalion, seized the banner, ran ahead with it more than fifty paces towards the enemy, planted it in the ground, and cried in Hungarian, 'Hither, Magyar! here waves thy banner!'

"From thirty to forty of the most courageous followed the intrepid man. But while the foremost rank joined them only laggardly, those behind deserted more and more; and after a few minutes the battalion resembled a mis-shapen elongated reptile, for the greater number crawled away on all fours, while those who fled erect tumbled over them. In vain did Captain Gózon again hold up the banner, wave it high in the air, and exhaust himself with inspiring shouts; in vain did the commander of the battalion, with his adjutant, at last fall on the fugitives—they were no longer to be stopped. And even those few who had advanced at Gózon's first call, quickly deserted him again one after the other; and he soon stood there alone with the banner."

Of the Nograd Volunteer battalion only one man remained out of the general flight. "Thus out of nearly 5,000 of those National Guards and Volunteers, about whose valour I had already heard so many tirades, who, as they themselves had repeatedly asserted, were burning with desire to measure themselves with an enemy whom they never mentioned but with the greatest contempt—there remained to me after a short hostile cannonade a single man. . . . The other brigades were said—incredible as it seems—to have taken to their heels even before mine. . . . The firmness with which at Nikelsdorf I had opposed the President's urging to the offensive, proved, I should think, clearly enough that I was perfectly prepared for an unfortunate début of these 'inspired legions'; but what I had just experienced far exceeded my worst apprehensions."

Görgei now sent his staff "after the fugitives, to stop and assemble as many as they possibly could," so as to put some kind of a rearguard between the flying army and the Austrians. "The result of their exertions was hopelessly small, about 1,000 men in all, and even these were continually on the point of running away again." Fortunately the Austrians did not pursue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 67 (New Series). SATURDAY, MARCH 18th, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

This week we celebrate the festival of Saint Patrick, our National Apostle, which is also the festival of our Nationality. Tirechan wrote the traditions of Saint Patrick which he learned from Saint Ultan in the seventh century. Of the three petitions of Saint Patrick for the Irish, "as they are handed down to us Irish by tradition," says Tirechan, one was, "that we may never be subjugated by the barbarians." Saint Patrick had chiefly in mind the Anglo-Saxons and other Low Germans who in his time were engaged in the conquest of the neighbouring island. It is clear that our forefathers understood this prayer to have been granted by God, and thus to have become a prophecy. We have not been subjugated, and we trust that we never shall be subjugated.

* * *

The Northmen thought to conquer Ireland. Their descendants became Irish and resisted the conquest of Ireland. The Normans thought to conquer Ireland, and Giraldus wrote that Ireland was conquered. Their descendants became Irish and resisted the conquest of Ireland. The Elizabethan invaders thought to conquer Ireland, and once more the story of Ireland conquered was written. Their descendants became Irish and fought against the conquest of Ireland. The Plantation of Ulster was to finish the conquest, and the descendants of the Ulster Planters became United Irishmen. The Cromwellians thought that Ireland was finally subdued. Their descendants became Irish and fought for Ireland. Ireland remains unconquered and not to be conquered. She has conquered more conquerors than any nation in the world. Her people may seem yielding and easy-natured, but they are the most tenacious of all nations, and their history has been so shaped as to make it impossible for them to lie down under conquest. It was St. Patrick's desire that Ireland should never be conquered. While we celebrate his memory, let us resolve to be of his mind.

The stupidity of English militarism in Ireland is beyond belief. The competent military authorities in Cork actually proposed to turn the celebration of Saint Patrick's Day in that city into a British military and naval demonstration. Why not stick to Mr. Birrell's plan for the dilution of Irish patriotism by "watering and watering"? Perhaps the anti-Celt who supplies the London "Times" with "the best Irish opinion" from Dublin Castle would prefer firing and firing. Let them try it whichever way they like, they will not conquer Ireland. It may be that, like Pharaoh, they will make another attempt to keep us in bondage. "Once too often the pitcher goes to the well."

* * *

Padraig Mac Piarais sends me a copy of his pamphlet on "Ghosts." With that title, it should be sent to Mr. Birrell. The ghosts of the pamphlet do not haunt me. They are four witnesses to Ireland's perpetual resolves to be a free nation. Only one of them has a Celtic Irish name. The other three were of British descent, and Protestants in religion. Parnell was a fifth, whom Padraig names and quotes, but hesitates to class with the rest. What he quotes from Parnell's speech on Saint Patrick's Day thirty-one years ago is, to my mind, a piece of sound, straight, and honest political thinking. The best testimony to Parnell's political creed is the fear and hatred it inspired in the enemies of Irish nationality.

* * *

I have read a fairly long report of the trial of Mr. Kent, of Castlelyons, under the Defence of the Realm Act. The Castle lawyer promised to stagger humanity, or something to that effect, with the revelations he would produce in this and Mr. MacSwiney's case. The danger of Verdun must have interfered with the effect, but the lawyer may hope that his conduct in court will recommend him to his masters.

* * *

The Defence of the Realm Act certainly deserves no more respect from Irish people than from a number of eminent Englishmen who have protested against its gratuitous creation of an official tyranny over public liberty. Mr. Birrell continues to treat it with contempt. The Act requires the legal authorities to have an accused person **tried where he is found.** Mr. Birrell drags his accused from one end of the country to another. Then the Law to Order Attorney-General "finds" the accused in Mr. Birrell's dungeon at the other end of the country. A Law to Order judge says that is all right, exactly what was meant in the Act! Very honest and honourable, the whole performance by the Right Honourables. Frank MacDonagh, Farmer's Son, of Moycullen, in the west of Connacht, was "found" in Dublin, after Mr. Birrell had him dragged there, and tried under the Act by the excellent Drury, the self-convicted illegal intimidator of a witness, and therefore the right sort of magistrate to try a case from Moycullen, in contravention of the Act. The Farmer's Son is duly sentenced to three months imprisonment, as a cure for disaffection in Moycullen. The evidence showed that those who were locally in charge of Recruitment decided to hold a recruiting meeting at the place and time at which the local Irish Volunteers could be expected to be on the spot. Not a single disorderly act was even alleged in evidence against the Farmer's Son. It was said that one man in the crowd was jostled by the Volunteers as they marched past, and that one of the Volunteers spat on some papers which were lying on the ground! There was no pretence that Frank McDonagh incited either of these atrocities or was at all aware of them. The man who jostled the other man was not charged. The man who spat on the papers was not charged. Consequently there was no possible way of testing whether these atrocities happened at all. Mr. Birrell's evidence must be growing still more voluminous.

* * *

The other Sunday I was with a body of Volunteers marching through Ballyboden. They marched close past a military band and others who were coming to hold a recruiting meeting. I am quite sure that some of our men touched shoulders with some of the recruiting party. In any case, if it was sworn in evidence that some Volunteer, unarmed and unidentified, jostled somebody in the other crowd, and that another

Volunteer, also unidentified, spat out, there was no way of disproving it. And Mr. Drury could have been relied on to send me to jail. You see, Mr. Birrell has told his subordinates what he wants. For my part, I don't think we should go out of our way on Mr. Birrell's account. And since it is now clear that if Mr. Birrell's evidence-makers are present, and if you say "it is a fine day," you may find yourself accused of saying that Mr. Redmond ought to be murdered, my advice to the Volunteers is to exclude Mr. Birrell from all places where it is necessary to address the Volunteers on any subject, unless the representatives of the Press are also present. I would also take good care that Mr. Birrell was not collecting evidence "under the window."

* * *

Another pamphlet that I have read deals with the "Defence of the Realm Act." I should like to see the fullest available reports of all cases that have been heard in Ireland under that Act reprinted in pamphlet form. They would supply very instructive reading, and I have no doubt that they would be in great demand. The Government of Ireland is not proud, and has a modest and sensitive shrinking from showing off how it behaves. It is a sort of secret society, a Grand Mafia, with its secret service and its secret instructions. Peace or war, its methods do not change. It is a continuity. Let us give it all the daylight and all the fresh air possible.

* * *

The Whigs, Daniel O'Connell's "base Whigs," are having a great time under the protection of Mr. Redmond, Mr. Dillon and Mr. Devlin. They never expected to have such a time again. All over Ireland they have crawled out of the holes that Parnell and Davitt and Biggar frightened them into, or have thrown aside the disguises they wore, and now they are all over the place just as they were before the Land League, talking the same sort of talk and behaving generally as if Ireland belonged to them. There is a long cue of them at Sir Mathew Nathan's back-door. From Killarney, they wrote privately denouncing Mr. O'Shea, Chairman of the Rural District Council, for daring to be in the street with Irish Volunteers while they were making speeches at a recruiting meeting. They also denounced Mr. John Murphy, formerly M.P. for the constituency. The Government removed Mr. O'Shea from the magistracy which he held, not by Government favour, but in virtue of his election to the chairmanship of the Council. The Council held a special meeting and Mr. O'Shea told them what had happened, and they unanimously backed him up. Half of the members of the Tralee Urban Council have condemned the imprisonment of Mr. MacGaley. The other half, the Whig half, excused themselves on various paltry pleas, and the Chairman's casting vote saved the situation for liberty, civilisation, smaller nationalities and double taxation.

* * *

Some people pretend to scoff at the enthusiasm of the Imperialists for small nationalities. It is most unjust. The Imperialists have done their utmost to make nationality in Ireland as small as they could make it. They are doing their utmost at present for Small Nationality in Ireland. If they got their way, Irish Nationality would soon be small enough to please anybody. But the Small Nationalists themselves are growing smaller every day. Monte Carlo will soon be big enough for them.

* * *

In spite of the Press boycott, the threatened ruin of Ireland by taxation will be exposed. The Committee appointed by the Mansion House meeting is at work. Considering the difficulties placed in the way of publicity for any work of the kind, every assistance should be given to this Committee. Mr. B. J. Goff, M.A., 2 Dargle Road, Drumcondra, Dublin, is one of the Hon. Secretaries, and the Committee has also very properly appointed Hon. Treasurers, of whom Dr. Michael Davitt is one. It is my firm belief that, if we submit to the claim made to tax Ireland for Imperial war, many of us will live to see the population of Ireland reduced by another two millions and what remains of our agriculture and other industries destroyed. Now is the time to prevent it.

* * *

According to the London "Referee"—"Originally negligible, the Sinn Fein Party in Ireland is now well organised, and is growing in Co. Cork at an alarming rate. The Party's mission is not only anti-English but pro-German. The Sinn Feiners have lately started a branch for women. The modus operandi is to promise everybody illimitable wealth when the English are beaten." What next? Cork gone rotten, Kerry gone rotten, Dublin gone rotten! The very places where we have had all the raids and prosecutions and deportations are turned the worst against us! Why not try Bachelor's Walk once more?

* * *

The "Cork Constitution"—old style Imperialist—wants the news of the abortive attempt to capture Saint Patrick for the glorification of "Old Blood and Guts" published all over England. It is a praiseworthy desire. The only argument worth a row of pins in England about the "Irish question" is the argument that shows the impossibility of palavering, hoodwinking and humbugging the Irish people. They may wreathe the whole British army and navy in shamrocks. It will delight the Whigs, but will not deceive anybody, not even the Whigs.

EOIN MAC NEILL.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Coimirle Ghóta Féinne Fáil ina nDúnport tráthnóna D. Céadaoin an 8ad lá de'n mí seo agus an Ceann Cata Pádraic Mac Piarais ina Cathaoirleach orta.

Do minneadh a lán gnóta do bain le himtheachtaibh na dTimthirí, le hiomchur agus le Soláthar, ꝛc., ꝛc.

Dúnport na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 8 Márt., 1916.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, 8th inst., Commandant P. H. Pearse in the chair.

A large amount of business was transacted connected with the movements of Organisers and with questions of Transport and Supply.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson St.,
Dublin, 8th Mar., 1916.

Ainmnighte.

Sluagh Átha Cliath—An Ceathramhadh Cath.

An Leas-Chaptaen Éamí Mac Niocaill chum beith ina Chaptaen Inneallthóirí.

An tOghlách Seán Mag Fhloinn chum beith ina Leas-Chaptaen Inneallthóirí.

Mise,
PÁDRAIC MAC PIARAIS,
Ceann Catha,
Riaraidhe an Oirdhuighte.

Dúnport na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 8 Márt., 1916.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS.

THE IRISH FLAG.

An Order issued last year with regard to the National Flag has been obeyed by a good many Companies and Battalions, but not by all. It is considered desirable by Headquarters that every Company should have in its possession an Irish Flag. The Flag prescribed is the uncrowned gold harp on a plain green ground. This Flag should be well in evidence on all occasions of formal parades, such as those arranged for St. Patrick's Day and those contemplated for Easter and Whitsuntide next. Companies may also carry the official Volunteer Flag, but it is believed that at this stage the recognised National Flag more fully symbolises what the Irish Volunteers stand for and will gain a readier understanding and respect from Irishmen in general. Each Company which has not yet done so will take immediate steps to provide itself with a National Flag.

A RESERVE.

Some weeks ago Headquarters urged in this place the necessity for Company and Battalion Commanders keeping in touch with members or ex-members of their corps who are unable, for private reasons, to turn out with them at present. All who are not paying members of Companies will, of course, be in the Auxiliary, but there is an intermediate class, consisting of actual members of Companies who for the moment are unable to drill and of the able-bodied members of the Auxiliary, which should be looked upon as a reserve, and with which Company and Battalion Commanders should keep in the closest touch. These should all be on the mobilisation list, and commanders should make sure that they are in a position to mobilise them, with their equipment, just as readily as the working members of their units. On special occasions many units might be nearly doubled by the mobilisation of their reserves.

SOME HINTS.

Here are useful and very portable articles which every Volunteer might well add to his marching kit. We regret having to give free advertisements to English manufacturers, but no Irish manufacturers that we know of supplies such articles. They can be had, we imagine, through most chemists or direct from the manufacturers:—

1. Boots' "Tinned Heat" (a pocket stove containing solidified methylated spirit); 7½d.
2. Boots' Pocket Case of Compressed Medicines; 2s. 9d.
3. Boots' Iodine Tubes; 3d. Six in box for 1s. 3d.
4. Ayrton's Six Cups of Cocoa, Sugar and Milk in tabloid form; 7d.
5. Ayrton's Six Cups of Coffee, Sugar and Milk in tabloid form; 9d.
6. Ayrton's Six Cups of Tea, Sugar and Milk in tabloid form; 7d.

Messrs. Boots' address is Nottingham, and Messrs. Ayrton, Saunders & Co.'s address is Liverpool.

PULL-THROUGHS.

We hope our recent hint about pull-throughs has been taken to heart. It is quite obvious that every man that has a gun needs a means of cleaning it. A pull-through, some flannelette, and a supply of oil are the essentials. The best oil is that known as 3 in 1. Nothing could be more humiliating than to lose a campaign for lack of pull-throughs.

THE AUXILIARY.

Every friend of the Irish Volunteers who is unable to drill with a Company should join the Irish Volunteers' Auxiliary.

Forms of Enrolment, and Special Forms with spaces for ten names (for use by Organisers of the Auxiliary) can be had from the Hon. Secretary, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

ARTILLERY FOR VOLUNTEERS, AND SOME NOTES ON HEALTH.

Many and great are the fears felt by Volunteers at our shortage of artillery, and for our comfort we have been assured that artillery is not much use in Ireland. But we all know it is some use, and that if a shell hits a Volunteer it will kill him. For a further reassurance, therefore, I shall proceed to describe a cheap gun which any of us could make. It is not a very mobile gun; in fact, it is not mobile at all. But, we have been told, mobility is hard for the best artillery in Ireland, this being its main drawback. Neither is it a very handsome gun, nor would it look well on parade or in processions, but as a compensation it has no complicated works to be kept clean and in order. It is called a fougass.

* * *

To make a fougass you dig a cone-shaped hole in the ground, inclining the axis towards the enemy(as one would elevate a gun in sighting) so as to make an angle of about forty-five degrees with the horizon. The sides should slope outwards at an angle of twelve degrees from the axis. Now place your powder in a box at the bottom of the hole and place a fairly thick platform of wood in front. Pile up stones, bricks, bits of iron, etc., on the platform, and your gun is ready. So as to make sure that the line of least resistance is towards the enemy, heap up the excavated earth towards your own side and ram well. The gun can be fired by common fuse or by electricity.

* * *

The amount of powder to be used depends, of course, on the quantity of the missiles. The formula given is

$$P = \frac{S}{150}$$

Where P and S represent respectively the weight in pounds of the powder and stone (or brick, etc.)

* * *

This kind of artillery is not to be despised. It was used by such civilised fighters as the Russians in their war with Japan, and I dare say it is in use at present. Their effect, as a matter of fact, is chiefly moral, but they can do real material damage. A dozen or so in front of a line of fortified hedges would be a valuable adjunct to the defenders. Of course it is a dangerous weapon, and if mismanaged may do harm to its employers. So don't mismanage it.

* * *

I have occasionally been asked by Volunteers who are desirous of keeping fit whether smoking is harmful. Yes, it is. But the harm it can do varies. Some people can smoke more than others and suffer less. As a general rule heavy smokers damage their eyesight, hearts, and digestions, as well as their muscular fitness. To be a good sound soldier you should, therefore, smoke in moderation, and with certain rules. Preferably smoke a pipe. It is less harmful than cigarettes. (The eternal cigarette smoking some men go in for is ruinous.) Smoke after meals only, not before. Don't smoke while working or taking exercise. If you smoke indoors have the room well ventilated. Don't smoke a foul pipe. Don't smoke till you are over twenty-one. These are a lot of dont's, but if you seriously want to be a useful Volunteer you should try to obey them. Too many Volunteers drop out on a route march.

* * *

While I am on the subject of health I shall add a word as to the hair. Irishmen seem to have a fondness for long hair. Let them be warned that they will find it a nuisance on active service, or even in camp. Besides, short hair is more becoming to a soldier.

THE DUBLIN BRIGADE.

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 19th.

1. Classes as usual.
2. **All** Officers meet at Brigade Headquarters on Tuesday, 8 p.m.
3. The City Battalions meet at their respective Headquarters on Wednesday at 8.
4. On St. Patrick Day the Brigade will assemble for Church Parade, and Inspection by the President I. V., as follows:—

Bn. I.—Parnell Square, 8.15 a.m.
Bn. II.—Fr. Mathew Park, 8.0 a.m.
Bn. III.—Camden Row, 8.0 a.m.
Bn. IV.—Camden Row, 8.30 a.m.

5. Battalion Adjutants will make arrangements for the men to whom the Church Parade Order does not apply, to join their Battalions at 10 a.m.

E. de Valera, Brigade Adjt.

ORGANISATION.

Being Notes of a Lecture delivered by Commandant Eamonn Ceannt to the Officers of the Dublin Brigade.

FOREWORD. Organisation is here used chiefly in the sense of preparation and equipment, mainly personal. I have divided these notes under the heads—Rank and File, Section Commanders, Officers, and General; with a word to Quartermasters.

RANK AND FILE.

As well as arms (of the best available kind) and ammunition, the private Volunteer should have certain essential things:—An overcoat or cape for outpost, sentry, and night work; boots (not shoes) with thick soles, strongly made, well greased to soften, square-toed and a little on the long side; strong pair of spare laces; a candle; matches; safety-pins for a variety of uses; cleaning outfit—rags, pull-through and oil; a sailor's sheath knife (about 1/-) or other strong knife for cutting food, wood, sods, etc.; spoon, rifle sling (even three web-straps or a piece of rope is better than no sling); field-dressing (costing about 8d.), which must not be opened; a mess-tin or billy-can; a water-bottle; ammunition pouch.

All these are necessaries and should be ready packed or available in a compact parcel for instant need. Other useful things which may be regarded as comparative luxuries are:—Electric torch and acetylene lamp (both somewhat unreliable); field cooker (price 1/-), being a combined spirit lamp and stand, the spirit being in a solid form and unspillable—an excellent article, but dear at the price; strong thread and needle; a fork; a scissors; thermos flash (keeps liquids hot for 24 hours); a belt.

N.B.—A stout haversack is an obvious necessity not sufficiently realised. Headquarters can now supply good ones.

Every Volunteer should know how to use and handle a rifle, shotgun, and revolver. Few in practice know how to safely handle a revolver. He should know how to cook simple meals like Irish stew, stirabout, soup, and make and bake a cake. When food is scarce masticate slowly and tighten the belt. Good waterproof capes are advertised at 3/6 (second-hand). A two or three days' emergency ration (for instance, bread and salt meat) should be thought out and readily obtainable. You will be surprised how much a man can consume in two or three days, so do not leave home short of grub. The water-bottle, which is an essential, should be filled and kept so. Wounded men need water. Make your will if you have any worldly property. Keep the hair short; short hair doesn't look pretty, but it discourages dirt and disease. The rifle can be conveniently carried by putting one arm (but not the head) through the sling; it then hangs perpendicularly at the side. The short strap of the bandolier looped through the trigger guard also takes the place of a sling. If you have neither a stout haversack or ammunition pouch, have your pockets strengthened; this is a wise precaution in any case. All second-hand equipment, belts, bandoliers, bayonet frogs and the like, should be carefully overhauled and restitched where necessary. Leather fittings should be rubbed with paste as a protection against the weather. All men should be encouraged, by frequent inspection, to take a keen interest in their personal equipment.

A bicycle is a military machine of the first importance and deserves special mention. It is no exaggeration to say that the efficiency of a Volunteer corps is doubled by each man having a bicycle. Volunteers without bicycles must be able to ride, and be able to commandeer a machine when needed.

Any call, however sudden, should find men prepared. For that reason arms, ammunition, food, bicycle, and general equipment should be at all times in good order and easily accessible. The inspection of men's kits might be handed over to section commanders. But it is the duty of Company officers themselves to make occasional inspections of arms and kit.

In addition to the items already enumerated, each man should arrange at a pinch to procure a portable tool or piece of equipment. In this way, on mobilisation "with tools," a Company finds itself instantly provided with shovels, picks, spades, ropes, wire, crowbars, wire-cutters, saws, buckets, pans, slashers, hedge-clippers, etc., etc. A parade "with tools" is not picturesque but looks the business. All men of the Dublin Brigade have promised various articles, and full lists are scheduled in all Companies.

Every man must know accurately where his Section Commander and his Company Officers live, and be able to find his way to them by day or night.

NOTES ON FOOD.

VEGETABLE MATTER MIXED WITH FLOUR.

In a book written by a Professor Church on "Food," the following occurs:—"In times of scarcity all sorts of vegetable matter have been mixed with wheaten flour and meal to eke out a limited supply of these nutritious matters. During the Siege of Paris a coarse bread was made containing but little wheat, the main ingredients being potatoes and beans, with oats, rice and rye, together with a good deal of fibrous vegetable matter in the shape of chaff and straw. In Norway and Sweden the sawdust of non-resinous woods, like beech and birch, is boiled in water, baked, and then mixed with flour to form the material for bread; and in England, during the 17th century, a very tolerable bread was made from a mixture of the pulp of boiled turnips with wheaten flour."

ST. PATRICK'S NIGHT CONCERT.

Following on the Volunteer Parade and the Irish services in the churches in the morning, the great National Concert in the Rotunda Rink at night should prove a fitting climax to a memorable anniversary of the National Apostle. The National spirit in song and recitation will be capably interpreted by favourite Irish-Ireland artistes as well as by some excellent artistes who are new to Dublin audiences. During the programme selections will be given by St. James's Band and the O'Toole Pipers. The patriotic address by a well-known priest is being eagerly expected by his numerous admirers in Dublin, who recollect with pleasure his magnificent national address on a recent memorable occasion. Tickets range from 3s. to 6d.; the higher priced tickets can be obtained in advance at Sinn Fein, 6 Harcourt Street. The doors will open at 7 o'clock. Those who will patronise the concert are asked to secure their seats early.

Irish Financial Relations Committee.

The Executive Committee met on Saturday, 11th inst., at the Mansion House, Dublin. Mr. W. L. Cole presided.

A large amount of correspondence was read from supporters of the movement to oppose increased taxation in Ireland.

The Organising Sub-Committee reported substantial progress with the work of holding meetings throughout the country, and further details were decided on so as to reach other districts.

The Publication Sub-Committee were instructed to forward copies of the resolutions adopted by the public meeting in the Mansion House, the Dublin Corporation, the Dublin Trades Council and others, to the Public Bodies in Ireland, with a request for an expression of opinion on the over-taxation question.

IRISH LANGUAGE FUND, 1915.

Subscriptions of £1 and over from Business Firms, acknowledged by the Dublin District Committee of the Gaelic League:—

£5 5s. each:—Munster and Leinster Bank, Dame Street; John Power & Son, Distillers; Hibernian Bank, College Green.

£5 each:—The National Bank, College Green; the Dublin United Tramway Co.

£3 3s. each:—John Jameson & Sons, Distillers.

£3 each:—Hopkins & Hopkins, Jewellers; T. and C. Martin, North Wall.

£2 2s. each:—John D'Arcy & Son, Anchor Brewery; Greenmount Oil Co., the Royal Bank of Ireland, O'Connell Street; W. & R. Jacob, Boland, Ltd., Capel Street; W. & A. Gilbey, Court Laundry, Educational Company of Ireland, Dock Milling Company, Hibernian and General Fire Insurance Co., M. Crowley & Co., Peter Kennedy, Parnell Street; Hugh Moore and Alexander, Paterson & Co., Ltd., Catholic and General Insurance Association, Johnston, Mooney and O'Brien, Wm. M. Murphy, North City Milling Company, John MacDonnell & Co., Lower Ormond Quay.

£2 each:—T. J. Loughlin, Parliament Street; Independent Newspapers, City Bakery, Store St.

£1 1s. each:—John C. Parkes & Sons, John Egan & Son, Great Strand Street; James Hill and Son, Bachelor's Walk; Dartry Dye Works, MacGrath Bros., Bachelor's Walk; A. O'Farrell, Commercial Buildings; Arnott & Co., Ltd., Lalor, Ltd., Lower Ormond Quay; Mountjoy Brewery, R. Perry & Son, Stafford Street; The D.B.C., C. Bull, Ltd., Suffolk Street; I. S. Varian & Co., West & Son, Jewellers; Dublin Distillers Co., Dollard, Ltd., The Henry Street Warehouse; Alexander Findlater & Co., The Erne Soap and Candle Works, Eason & Sons, Irish Cutlery Manufacturing Co., Cahill & Co., Printers; Piggot & Co., Kapp & Peterson, P. J. Walsh & Sons, Bachelor's Walk; P. O'Reilly, Poolbeg Street; Patriotic Assurance Co., Wm. Hogg & Co., Ltd., Cope Street; Sir James Mackey; Editor, "The Leader"; Sealy, Bryers, and Walker, Bolton & Co., Westmoreland St.; Alliance and Dublin Consumers' Gas Co., Wilson, Hartnell & Co., Commercial Buildings; W. & P. Thompson, Lower Gardiner Street; Paul and Vincent, Mrs. Julia Fanagan, 54 Aungier Street; John Barrington & Sons, Thompson Motor Co., J. E. Symington, Watkins, Jameson, Pim & Co., Daniel O'Connell, 13 Heytesbury St.; Johnston & Co., Grafton Street; O'Loughlin, Murphy & Boland, Fountain Head Bell Foundry, Anderson, Stanford & Ridgeway, Hayes, Conyngham and Robinson, Millar and Beatty, A. & J. Main, Leinster Street.

£1 each:—Sir Patrick Shortall, Wm. F. Butler, Walter Conan, Esq.; St. James's Band, Bridgefoot Street; Andrews & Co., James M'Cann & Son, The Irish Feather Co., Walter Brown & Co., Madigan Bros., Henry Street; O'Kelly, Wine Merchants; Clery & Co., Bewley and Draper, Ormond Printing Co., Thomas Henshaw & Co., H. & M. Woods, Ferrier, Pollock and Co., Kelly, Bros. & Co., Upper O'Connell Street; Fitzgerald & Co., Middle Abbey Street; Murray & Sons, Todd, Burns & Co., Michael O'Donnell, Stafford Street; Hovenden & Orr, Kernan & Co., Camden Street; MacBirney & Co., L. & J. Egan, 36 Arran Quay; Laurence A. Waldron, P.C.; W. L. Ryan & Co., Lower Ormond Quay; — Minch, Esq. (Watson's), Bachelor's Walk; J. Lawlor & Sons, L. Keegan, Inn's Quay; The "Freeman's Journal," American Alliance (A.O.H.), 27 Great Brunswick Street; O'Brien & Co., Gallagher, D'Olier Street; John Nagle & Co., Adam Scott & Co.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Do chum gloire De agus onora na hEireann.
ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY
A SERMON IN IRISH will be preached
In the Church of St. Columba, Drumcondra,
By the Rev. A. MORIARITY, C.C., William St.,
At Four o'clock.
TAGAIDH A GHEADHALA!

GRAND CONCERT
Will be held in the
ANTIENT CONCERT ROOMS
SUNDAY NIGHT, 9th APRIL, 1916.
Doors open 7.30 p.m. Commencing at 8 o'clock.
ADDRESS BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

DON'T FORGET THE
Fianna Céilidh
BANBA HALL, 18th MARCH,
Commencing at 9.
TICKETS:—**DOUBLE, 4s.; SINGLE, 2s.**

IRISH HISTORY LECTURES.
March 19.—"Ireland and the Spanish Armada."
Art Ó Gríobtha
ADMISSION—THREEPENCE.

Sensational News!! No, but a **Grand Concert and Dramatic Performance** will be held in **41 PARNELL SQUARE** on **SUNDAY, March 19,** at 8 o'clock, by **Cumann na mBan Craob Inghinidhe na hEireann.** Come and See Shaun Connolly as "Michael Dempsey" in P. Keogh's Great New Irish Play, **"IRELAND FIRST."**
TICKETS:—(Reserved) **2s.**, and **1s.**, and **6d.**

2nd DUBLIN BATTALION.
COY. "B's" CONCERT will be
SOMETHING NEW.
Address on a subject of great importance by
ARTHUR GRIFFITH,
SUNDAY, 26th MARCH—8 p.m.,
41 PARNELL SQUARE.
TICKETS—**2s.** (Reserved); **1s.**, and **6d.**

"IRELAND FIRST"
and
GRAND CONCERT
Will be held in
BOYS' SCHOOL, SWORDS,
On FRIDAY, MARCH 17th, 1916, at 8 o'clock.
ADMISSION - - **2/-, 1/-,** and **6d.**

ST. PATRICK'S NIGHT CONCERT—TRALEE.

The Committee of the above mean to make this year's Concert a memorable one, and have specially engaged the renowned young Irish Baritone, **MR. E. O'CONNOR COX,** for the occasion.

THE FORD PEACE CRUSADE.

For the first true account of this much-maligned and misrepresented expedition, written by a member of the party, see the
"IRISH CITIZEN,"
MARCH 15th. ONE PENNY.

Owing to the St. Patrick's Day Parade and other causes, the Drawing of Prizes in aid of Ballycahalin I. V. Equipment Fund, announced for March 17th, has been postponed until May 21st.

LIVERPOOL "B" COY.—Draw for .45 Revolver postponed to 28th March. Winning No. in "Volunteer," "Nationality," and "Spark," 8th April. Counterfoils, etc., not yet returned are wanted by Secretary, M. Gleeson, at 2 Dawson Street.

COURTBRACK I. V.—Drawing of Prizes. Result:—492, 662, 210, 627. T. J. Golden, Hon. Sec., Donoghmore, Co. Cork.

MR. E. O'CONNOR COX (Baritone)
(Feis Ceoil Gold Medallist and Winner of Denis O'Sullivan Medal, Feis Ceoil, etc.),
OPEN to ENGAGEMENTS for CONCERTS, etc.
An unlimited repertoire of Ancient and Modern Irish Music.
Special Terms to Irish Volunteer and Gaelic League Concerts. For terms apply **St. Malachy's, Oakland's Park, Ballsbridge, Dublin.**

WARPIPE BANDS.

VOLUNTEERS, we ask your support when starting Bagpipe or other Bands. We are actual makers in Ireland, and can give you better and cheaper Instruments than those who are merely Importers.
Best Uilean Bagpipes always in stock. Chanter, Bag, and Bellows, **75s.** net.
Wholesale Agent for all publications by Carl Hardebeck. Write for lists.

D. McCULLOUGH
MUSICAL WAREHOUSE,
8 HOWARD STREET, BELFAST.

"Everything that is not Irish must be Foreign."
GLEESON & Co. IRISH GOODS ONLY
Irish Volunteer Tailors and Drapers,
11 UPPER O'CONNELL ST., DUBLIN.

1782——1913.
VOLUNTEERS' BOOTS.
Best ever produced for comfort and ease in marching. Made in my own workshops by skilled Irishmen, under Trade Union conditions.
Price 15/6. Reduction for Companies.
J. MALONE,
67 NORTH KING STREET, DUBLIN.

RAZORS
Ground & Set
4d. each
Postage 2½d extra

Satisfaction Guaranteed
McQUILLAN,
Tool Merchant,
35/36 Capel St.,
DUBLIN.

JOHN DALY'S
BAKERIES,
26 WILLIAM STREET
AND
SARSFIELD STREET,
LIMERICK.

All Classes of Feeding Stuffs Stocked.

DON'T FORGET
LARKIN'S
LITTLE SHOP
For Big Value in Chandlery, Tobacco, Cigarettes, etc.
IRISH GOODS A SPECIALITY.
Wexford St., Dublin.

. . Rings . .

EVERY FACILITY for choosing exactly the ring you require is offered at **GANTER BROS.** Almost unlimited selection. No hurry, no rush, no pressure. Catalogue free on request.

GANTER BROS.,
63 South Great George's Street, DUBLIN.

EQUIPMENT CHEAP.

Haversacks, Knapsacks, Belts, Water-bottles, Puttees, Military Coats (second-hand), Entrenching Shovels, Ammunition Pouches, Army Cord and Serge Breeches (new and second-hand), Revolver Holsters (new and second-hand), Marching Boots, Mess Tins. Oil, Cleaning Outfits, Knives.
SEE PRICE LISTS.
LAWLER'S, 2 Fownes's St. Dublin

COURT LAUNDRY,
58a HARCOURT STREET, DUBLIN.
(Proprietor, H. C. Watson).
Winners of Silver Medal for Fancy Ironing Work, and Diploma for Shirts and Collars at Manchester Laundry Exhibition, 1913. **Post Paid one way on orders of 2/6. For Collars and Shirts only.** Telephone 1848.

A Gaedeala, cabhraigidh le Gaedeal!
For real **Bed-rock Value** in **Groceries** and **Confectionery** try
M. O'RIORDAN AND CO.,
1 and 2 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CORK.

TREASON! It is treason for Irishmen to buy the Foreign Article and neglect Irish Industries.
LOUGHLIN'S IRISH OUTFITTING
is better than the Foreign Shirts, Hosiery, Gloves, Braces, Hats, Caps, Boots, etc., etc. ALL IRISH. **Fair Prices.**
IRISH OUTFITTING HEADQUARTERS,
19 Parliament Street, DUBLIN.

COMFORTABLE APARTMENTS at 19 Blessington Street. Full board; from 14s. to 17s. per week.

Miss E. MacHugh
"63" Talbot Street, DUBLIN.
Lucania, Pierce, Swift, Rudge, B.S.A. New Bicycles. Cash. Easy Payments.
Repairs. Accessories. Second-hand Bicycles from 25/-. Prams and Gramophones Repaired.

Rifles. Guns. Repairs.
ALL KINDS .22 AMMUNITION.
ALL BOARDS, TARGETS.
Cleaning Rods, Pull Throughs, Oils, and all Rifle Sundries.

CATALOGUES ON APPLICATION.

L. KEEGAN, Gun and Rifle Maker
3 INN'S QUAY, DUBLIN.
Telephone 2574.

W. CHASE
Tobacconist, Stationer Fancy Goods, Chandler AND General Hardware Stores,
115 Parnell St.
DUBLIN.

"An Scáth a Céile Seadh Mairid na Daoine,"—a Gaedeala:—
We appeal to you as a Gael only for a trial order. We are certain to give you satisfaction.
LADIES' AND GENT'S TAILOR.
Pádraig Ó Doileir,
2 LOWER ORMOND QUAY.

AUTOMOBILE SCHOOL.
VOLUNTEERS,
We give you a Complete Practical Course in Motor Car Driving, Mechanism, and repairs for **2 GUINEAS.**
Up-to-date-Cars. Certificate when competent.
4 Dartmouth Place, Ranelagh Road, DUBLIN.

CAHILL'S
MAGIC BLOOD PURIFIER, 1/- & 2/-.
Removes Pimples, Spots, Skin Eruptions, cools the blood, regulates the system.
ARTHUR J. CAHILL,
The National Chemist,
82a LOWER DORSET STREET, DUBLIN.

We are an exclusively "IRISH FIRM" employing only IRISH LABOUR.
All garments made to order in our own workshops. **EXTENSIVE STOCK** to select from, bought for **CASH** from best **IRISH MANUFACTURERS.**
SUITS, 42s. to 84s.
The Irish Tweed House :: CASH TAILORING CO.
(John Neligan, Manager),
4 CAPEL STREET, DUBLIN,
and 50 Upper George's Street, Kingstown.

Irish Made Shirts, Caps, Poplin Ties, Collars, Hosiery, etc.
THE BEST VALUE FOR CASH IN LIMERICK.
Pádraig Ó n-Allmuráin,
Draper,
10 WILLIAM STREET, LIMERICK.

Gaedil ir ead rinn-ne
Ir ní náir linn é
Give us a trial order for **FRESH IRISH OATMEAL, MACROOM OATMEAL, TEAS,** from **2/4 to 3/-.** **Sent Post Free.**
MacCURTAIN BROS.,
52-54 SHANDON ST. and 40 THOMAS DAVIS ST., CORK.

The Munster Furnishing Co.,
11 ST. GEORGE'S STREET, CORK.
JOHN JENNINGS, Proprietor.
All kinds of Household Furniture—
IRISH MANUFACTURE.

CITY CLUB CIGARETTES. 10 for 4d.
TRY THEM.
P. Conway & Co.
TOBACCONISTS,
31 Exchequer Street and 10a Aungier Street.
Established 1894.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 68 (New Series). SATURDAY, MARCH 25th, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

The London correspondent of the "Irish Times" reports that "a general election is in some quarters considered to be necessary in order that the Government may be **strengthened in authority** and may not have to face considerable trouble **from the people** and parties who are trying to undermine that authority." He adds: "It is probable that both the Home Rule and the Tariff question **will be swallowed up** in a great policy of Imperial reorganisation, and that the parties as now known will cease to exist." It is not for the purpose of crushing Prussian militarism or liberating Europe or avenging Belgium or preserving the freedom of the seas, according to this report from "the political clubs," that the Government is to be strengthened. Nothing of the kind, but "in order that the Government may have power to deal with **after-the-war problems,**" including the swallowing-up of Home Rule.

* * *

That things would shape this way, I pointed out in the early stages of the war, when Mr. Redmond adopted the grand policy of throwing Ireland on the mercy of the British Democracy and atoning for her disloyal and ungrateful past. This war was certain to bring consequences that had not been calculated by those who were preparing Europe for it, from the Caspian Sea to the Bay of Biscay, for years past. They are now beginning to get uneasy about other things than Prussian militarism. They have brought about a state of things for which history has no precedent and for which experience has no guiding light. Mr. Justice Pim, in his address to the Antrim Grand Jury the other day, said plainly that, great as were the difficulties of the war, still more serious difficulties after the war might be expected. Yes, it is going to be an anxious time for the grandees generally, so they are beginning to plot and plan in their political clubs, not merely the clubs of one party, but the clubs of the whole Oligarchy, how to handle the situation. In plain words, this means how to establish an effective control of the privileged few over the mass of the people. There will be no grave differences on that point between leading Liberals and leading Tories. They will all join hands and help each other to snaffle and saddle their dear old pack-mule, Mr. Redmond's hope and joy, the British Democracy. "Parties as now known will cease to exist." In return for the Liberals swallowing up Home Rule, the Unionists will graciously consent to let Tariff Reform fall into abeyance until the "after-war problems" are disposed of.

* * *

So the wise men of privilege have come to the conclusion, they were sure to come to it, that now that they have the Press under control and everybody's mind filled with the truth about the war, now is the time to take out a new lease on the most advantageous terms, and to secure powers that would not be granted at any other time, powers extending over the period after the war. It would be dangerous to wait till the war fever had died out and people were no longer ready to swallow any sort of humbug dished up for them. So, on the pretence of "a great policy of Imperial reorganisation" the grand muleteers of both parties are to combine, and with the help of the wealthy and that great free institution the Press, and all the power they can gather into their hands, they hope to ride out of their difficulties. Of course, while these trifles are being transacted, Mr. Redmond's British Democracy will have nothing else troubling them except how to show their gratitude to Ireland by granting her the right to collect some eight or ten millions of Imperial taxation and hand it over. By the time the rest of Ireland is swept as bare of population as the rich plains of Meath, it will be a suitable planting ground for the surplus population of England.

* * *

So far as ordinary sanity and commonsense can foretell, what Ireland will secure after the war will depend on the strength in the hands and hearts of Irishmen. The man who advises the Irish people to look for gratitude and to put their trust in the melting-pot of British politics, the most charitable thing that can be said of him is that he is suffering from softening of the brain. I ask the most pig-headed factionist to consider how his advisers have advised him and how his leaders have led him since their policy began to be dictated to them by English Ministers. Did they warn the people about the collapse of the "Home Rule" ministry? I warned them months in advance, but the leaders sang dumb and had to swallow the Coalition and behave like good boys. Did they warn the Irish people that ruinous taxation would be imposed on them? I gave that warning months in advance, but the leaders kept silence. What sane man can expect that these leaders, though their own minds are full of misgivings, will utter a word of honest and manly warning about the further changes that are now being prepared, and which they are powerless to prevent?

* * *

Every warning that I have given has been verified. At the inception of the Volunteer movement, it was evident that Mr. Redmond and his colleagues were blindly depending on the smooth course of British politics. The original Irish Volunteer manifesto warned the people that some great upheaval in British politics might come to upset that sort of reliance. It came eight months later, in the shape of the war, and it swept Mr. Redmond off his feet. Now I have another warning to give, or rather to repeat. If the now adopted scheme of Imperial taxation is imposed on Ireland, it will be more ruinous to this country than a fresh conquest. It will reduce the population by one-half. It will strangle every effort for the economic betterment of Ireland and drown every hope of Irish prosperity. It will involve Irish people of every side in politics in one common calamity. It will reduce those who are fairly well off to a struggling condition, and those who are struggling to the condition of paupers. It will fill the emigrant ships, the poorhouses, and the lunatic asylums. The Irishman who, because he is in a political fix, or because he is blinded by faction, or because he is a partisan of English rule, gives his assent or consent to this piece of ruinous tyranny, is not faithful to Ireland. For the sake of our country, for the sake of all who are near and dear to us, this thing must be stopped.

* * *

Already the public representative bodies have begun to move in the matter. It is certainly not too soon. They cannot be accused of hasty action. Whenever the question is raised, the usual formula of faction is brought forward by somebody who thinks more of the advantage of a party than of his duty to the country—perhaps it is his own private interest that is troubling him. The watchword of faction is that such matters should be left to the Irish Party to deal with. We did not hear this faction cry last year when Lloyd George proposed a particular tax, and the Irish Party under Mr. Redmond's orders—as Mr. Field, M.P., stated in public at the Phœnix Park meeting—consented to the tax. The traders immediately affected, the licensed traders, at once organised their opposition. They appealed to the local councils. They appealed to the whole public. They held a meeting in the Phœnix Park. They did not consult the Party or wait for the Party to take action. They used all the public support they could command to force the Party, and they succeeded. Mr. Redmond, having ordered the Party to submit, reversed his order, returned to London, and opposed the taxation. The result was announced by Lloyd George himself in these words: "The House of Commons quailed before an enraged mob of Irish brewers and publicans." The Government also quailed, and the taxes were withdrawn. The taxes now proposed are, perhaps, a hundred times as heavy as the taxes then successfully resisted. Therefore the man who will now try to prevent action by the factious cry, "Leave it to the Party," convicts himself of dishonest factionism, and makes himself an aider and abettor of the oppression and robbery of the people.

* * *

Where it is not freely taken up, this question should be deliberately brought before every public body in Ireland. If the elected representatives do not bring it forward, any ratepayer can write to a local Board on the subject. Every man who owes his position to the votes of electors should be challenged to give his own voice and vote.

* * *

Last week I gave from memory the address of one of the secretaries of the Financial Relations Committee formed at a public meeting in the Mansion House to look after this matter of taxation. I now give the official address: Irish Financial Relations Committee, Mansion House, Dublin. Chairman: W. L. Cole; Hon. Secs.: B. J. Goff, M.A.; J. E. Lyons; Hon. Treasurer: Dr. Michael Davitt, B.Sc. Mr. Lyons's home address is 14 Portland Place, Dublin.

* * *

I was denounced in public becaused I objected to "the son of Michael Davitt" when Mr. Redmond wished to nominate him to the Committee of the Irish Volunteers. I objected to Dr. Davitt because I was not satisfied that he was nominated with a view to make the Volunteer organisation effective in the service of the country. But that stage is now past. I hope that those who heard me denounced will now support the son of Michael Davitt in the effort to protect Ireland from financial ruin.

* * *

Mr. Birrell carried out two or three surprise raids on Irish Volunteers in Cork last week, just to illustrate Home Rule on the Statute Book and to prove the truth of Mr. Asquith's words that we are a free people. In these raids and the raid on Mr. Kent's house at Castlelyons, Mr. Birrell managed to steal two or three firearms and some ammunition. After all, that is a small matter compared with the robbery of Eight Millions per annum. But Mr. Birrell may bear in mind that in some of these raids of his the surprise will be for him. We do not acknowledge his right to burgle our houses for arms and ammunition. We have no doubt about our right to resist burglary. If in the resistance, life is lost on either side, Mr. Birrell will be the murderer. My advice is Parnell's advice: "Keep a firm grip on your homesteads." During the Land War, the armed forces of the Crown came with their legal warrants to break into Irishmen's houses, and in spite of their legality, which after all was merely armed force, what some call Prussianism, Irishmen defended their homes. What Mr. Birrell, the pledged Home Ruler, wants is to have Ireland, like Mr. Redmond, at the mercy of his Government. We are resolved, with the help of God, that, so far as we can effect, Ireland will never again be at the mercy of any such Government.

* * *

I don't pretend to know whether Mr. Birrell indulges in "Prussiansim" because he has a taste for it, or whether it is just typical Liberal cowardice, under the influence of demands made in the "Times," the "Globe," and other organs of liberty. There is nothing surprising in his game of surprise. He is an Englishman, appointed by Englishmen to rule Ireland. I am more concerned for the police, who are Irishmen. I certainly feel it would be a miserable thing to have to kill or wound an Irishman on Mr. Birrell's account. I had difficulty in some quarters, in the days before the war, in persuading some people that the Ulster Orangemen and the Ulster Volunteers were not what we had to fight, unless we absolutely could not help it. Now the people who were hard to persuade are telling us that it is a glorious thing for Irish Nationalists and Irish Unionists to join hands in defence of the Empire or of Belgium or whatever it is. That makes it easier for me to say that it would be a miserable thing for us to have to use our arms against Irish Unionists or against Irish policemen.

* * *

From time to time I have shown up the efforts of the Castle to create fiction in Ireland for the benefit of liberty and religion and civilisation and small nationalities. If these tactics have failed, that does not say they will be abandoned. In Cork, Galway and Tipperary, the Volunteers of both sections joined in the St. Patrick's Day celebrations. The National Volunteers in Cork adopted a special device to show that many of their comrades were in the European war, and I am glad to note that this remarkable incident led to no unpleasantness. These men accept the view that the European war is "Ireland's war" and that their absent comrades are in "Ireland's army." Many Irishmen hold that view in good faith. Those who differ from them will lose nothing by respecting their liberty of opinion. It is years since I publicly expressed the hope, at the Ulster Feis in Toome, that we might live to see Ulstermen joining to celebrate the memories of the Defence of Derry as well as of the Battle of Benburb. It suits the policy of Dublin Castle, the Continuity policy, to blood us up against each other. That was the object of their wicked invention of incitements to murder Mr. Redmond. They have got their answer in Cork. Just as in the Crossmaglen Conspiracy, they selected Belfast as the venue for trying Irish Volunteers in the hope of disgracing Bel-

fast, as they have disgraced it before, with barbarous faction. In my opinion, their police raids are mainly intended to blood up the police against their fellow-countrymen. If there was no question of national freedom, it would still be a sacred duty for Irishmen to get rid of this unscrupulous, dishonourable and degrading system. In the old times they poisoned an O'Neill or an O'Donnell. Now they try to poison the whole nation with feuds and hatred. To the most ardent Irish Volunteer, I say do not let them succeed even so far as to make you speak a word of insult to any Irishman. Keep one object steadily before you, to rid Ireland of their interference.

* * *

We work for an undivided Ireland. We cannot expect unity all at once, but let our spirit be the spirit of unity in the body of nationality. As Father Fullerton said, addressing the immense gathering in Dublin on St. Patrick's Night, it is not necessary that we should have all Ireland on our side, however much we desire it. American "loyalists" fought against American Independence, and our "loyalists" are just the same sort. Were the Americans justified in the stand they made under George Washington? The whole world says they were. The oppression against which they revolted was in every point and particular less than the present oppression of Ireland.

* * *

St. Patrick's Day was celebrated in England with palaver and shamrocks. Live horse and you'll get grass. If there is any sincerity in the palaver, if the lessons of our history do not hold good this time, there is an easy test. Let them take their hands off Ireland, the right hand off her throat and the left hand off her pocket, and leave us free to govern ourselves. Their Imperial crisis is their excuse for giving us palaver instead of our rights. The excuse is so much additional humbug. Instead of being harder, **it would be easier for them to abolish Dublin Castle now than at any other time.** Father Fullerton reminded his audience that the very thick of an Imperial crisis was the time chosen for violating the treaty of 1782 and imposing the ruinous and degrading Union on Ireland.

* * *

Mr. Walter Long is said to be typical of the bluff and honest English Tory. Perhaps he is a favourite specimen. At all events, he once denounced the Ulster separation policy as cowardly and needless. The other day he said in a speech that England owed "a debt of gratitude" to Ireland. "I'll owe you the balance, if you are satisfied," said Simple Simon to the Pieman. "All right," said the Pieman. Time passed, and the balance remained unpaid. At last the Pieman went to Simple Simon and asked when he might expect payment. "What payment?" said Simple Simon. "The balance you owe me," said the Pieman, "we agreed about it." "Yes," said Simple Simon, "we agreed that I was **to owe it to you,** and we'll stick to that agreement."

* * *

You would think it was a novelty, this debt of gratitude. In the year 1245, an Irish King led an Irish army to help Henry III., King of England, to conquer Wales. In 1296 an Irish King led an Irish army to help Edward I., king of England, to conquer Scotland. He was killed by the English on his way back. A very large contingent fought for England against France in the wars of Henry V. Many Irish-speaking Irishmen served in England's wars under Marlborough. The independent Irish Parliament voted 20,000 Irishmen for the British Navy at the critical time when English navalism was acquiring its supremacy and English statesmen were plotting the Union. In every one of England's wars since then, thousands of Irishmen have fought. I am not defending them. I am merely thinking about that debt of gratitude.

* * *

If they really mean it, Mr. Long and the other bluff and honest Britons, from the top down, if their emblem for St. Patrick's Day is not to be called the hypocritical shamrock, why don't they pay their debts and have done talking about them?

* * *

It was in Larne, County Antrim, that a certain respectable churchgoer, when the poor-box came round, used to give a gracious nod to the collector and nothing to the collection. So it went on, one Sunday after another, and the excellent pastor did not fail to notice it. At last one Sunday he said, "I'd rather see one of your halfpence than a dozen of your nods." Do they really think that Irish people are to be humbugged with gracious palaver—and double taxation, raids on houses and trial by Drury?

EOIN MAC NEILL.

THE DUBLIN BRIGADE.

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING 26th MARCH, 1916.

1. Classes as usual.
2. Usual Lectures for Officers, Tuesday and Saturday, 8 p.m.

M. W. O'REILLY, Deputy Adjt.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comairle Ghnóta Féinne Fáil ina nDúnport tráchnóna D. Céadaoin, an 15ad lá de'n mí seo, agus an Ceann Cata Pádraic Mac Piarais ina chathaoirleach orta.

Do fríoth cunntas ar sgrúdughadh oifigeach Sluaigh Átha Cliath.

Do sgrúduigeadh tuairisgí na dTimthiri agus do rinneadh a lán oibre eile.

Dúnport na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 15 Márt., 1916.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, the 15th inst., Commandant P. H. Pearse in the chair.

A report on the examination of the officers of the Dublin Brigade was handed in.

The Organisers' reports were considered and a large amount of other business transacted.

The General Council of the Irish Volunteers will meet at Headquarters on Sunday next, 26th March, at 12 noon.

Dublin, 15th Mar., 1916.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS.

THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADES.

Accounts to hand go to show that in every Brigade and Battalion District very impressive and dignified parades were carried out by the Irish Volunteers on St. Patrick's Day. In accordance with the Order of Headquarters, Church Parades were held in the various centres, and the units participating (Brigades, Battalions, or Companies according to local circumstances) afterwards took part in a review, a recruiting-march, or a piece of field-training as determined by the local command. In some instances public meetings for the enrolment of recruits were held, and in nearly every important centre the Irish Volunteers either organised or co-operated in the organising of an Irish concert.

THE DUBLIN REVIEW.

Most impressive of all was the review of the Dublin Brigade by the President. The Brigade had previously attended a Church Parade in SS. Michael and John's. The church not being anything like large enough to hold the entire Brigade, the 3rd Battalion attended an earlier Mass and was on duty outside the church while the 1st, 2nd and 4th Battalions were at the military Mass inside. An armed guard stood within the altar-rails, and at the Consecration the guard saluted by presenting arms while the officers of the Brigade saluted with their swords. The Brigade (having been joined by a detachment from the 5th Battalion) then proceeded on a short route-march, returning to College Green for the review. Each Battalion, the massed cyclists, the band, and the guard were inspected in turn by the President, who was accompanied by the Directors of Organisation and of Transport and Supply with their respective staffs, and was received by the Brigade Commandant and his staff. Numerically, the parade was the largest that has yet been held by the Dublin Brigade, and spectacularly it was by far the most striking. The bearing and equipment of the men left little to be desired.

EXAMINATIONS OF OFFICERS.

The Chief of Inspection has just completed the examination of the officers and sub-officers of the Dublin Brigade and has presented to Headquarters a report in which he states the officering of the Brigade to be satisfactory. A more detailed report will be given to the Brigade Commandant and to the various Battalion Commandants. Commandants and Company officers will exert themselves during the next few weeks to remedy any minor defects which the Chief of Inspection may have occasion to point out.

A SERVICE HAT.

Headquarters has sanctioned for wear on field service (without making it official) a wide-brimmed felt hat of the "colonial" type submitted by Messrs. J. Lawler and Son, 2 Fownes's Street, Dublin. Its price is 4s. and it is a smart-looking and fairly serviceable headgear. It is not, unfortunately, of Irish manufacture, which is one of the reasons why it is not being made official. Ireland at present appears to be unequal to the making of a service hat.

A HAVERSACK.

Headquarters has manufactured an exceedingly useful haversack, which it is in a position to sell to Irish Volunteers for half-a-crown. It is roomy, very strong, entirely waterproof, and of a good neutral colour. Orders should be addressed to the Director of Transport and Supply.

FINANCIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

The Financial Relations Committee has sent the following letter to Mr. John Redmond:—

Mansion House,
Dublin, 18th March, 1916.

To John E. Redmond, Esq., M.P.

Sir,—In the "Freeman's Journal" of the 13th March you are reported as having said to Mr. Lloyd George: "Ireland is mulcted by a very large and heavy portion of the taxes of the war—necessarily; **no complaint has been made.**"

We desire to call your attention to the fact that you have been misinformed on this last point. Complaint—serious, well-grounded complaint—has been made, and continues to be made, by the Irish people against the burden of extra taxation laid on them by the present war.

To instance some of the more important manifestations of protest: (1) On February 29th, at a public meeting, which filled the Round Room of the Dublin Mansion House, a resolution was unanimously and enthusiastically adopted calling for the complete exemption of Ireland from the additional taxes imposed last year and foreshadowed for this year. (2) On March 6th, the Dublin City Council unanimously adopted a resolution protesting against the imposition of any further taxation on Ireland. (3) On the same day, March 6th, the Dublin Trades Council discussed the question, and passed a resolution declaring that Irish taxation should be controlled entirely by the people of Ireland. Resolutions of protest have also been adopted by the Monaghan County Council, Limerick City Council, Thurles Urban Council, Athy District Council, King's Co. Agricultural Committee, the North Dock Ward U.I.L., and by a large public meeting in Wexford; while several public bodies in different parts of the country have given expression to similar complaints.

Of the manifold grounds for these complaints—which are familiar to you as a member of the Financial Relations Commission of 1894–6, and which include the breach of the fiscal provisions of the Act of Union, the admitted robbery of Ireland to the extent of over £300,000,000, the proved injustice of asking Ireland to bear fiscal burdens on the same scale as Great Britain,—we need stress only one—namely, the fact that Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, are not compelled to contribute any sums towards war expenditure. The people of Ireland have no less right to control freely the raising and expenditure of their own revenues than that enjoyed by these self-governing communities. So long as this right is withheld complaint must and will continue.

Yours, on behalf of the Irish Financial Relations Committee,

B. J. GOFF,
J. E. LYONS,
Hon. Secs.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

The Treasurer of the Irish Volunteers desires very gratefully to acknowledge the receipt of the sum of £41 7s. 9d., which has been forwarded by the Executive Committee of Cumann na mBan for the purpose of providing arms and ammunition for the Irish Volunteers. If this good example set by Cumann na mBan were followed by other Irish Organisations it would be of very material advantage to the National Movement. In the present circumstances there is no work that can compare in importance with the work of providing Irishmen with arms for the defence of their rights and liberties.

"THE BATTLE OF BENBURB."

Next Sunday, at 25 Parnell Square, Capt. O'Connor lectures on the above subject. These lectures are unique, as it is the first time that the public has been afforded, by means of public lectures, an opportunity of studying the military genius of the various leaders who took up the sword against England.

POLICE ATTACK ON TULLAMORE VOLUNTEERS.

OFFICIAL ACCOUNT.

Interviewed by a newspaper representative on Tuesday, Mr. Bulmer Hobson, Hon. Secretary of the Irish Volunteers, stated that, according to the reports received by Headquarters from the Irish Volunteer officers at Tullamore, the facts of the situation were as follows:—

Last night, about 8 o'clock, a large crowd, principally from the Barrack Street quarter of Tullamore, assembled outside the rooms occupied by the local Volunteers. Several Volunteers and also several ladies who were believed to be in sympathy with the Volunteer movement, were assaulted by the mob, several being repeatedly knocked down and kicked.

The police assisted in protecting the ladies who were assaulted, but made no attempt whatever to disperse the crowd. The crowd poured volleys of Stones and Bottles in through the windows of the Volunteer premises, but fortunately the few Volunteers who were inside were not injured.

This state of affairs lasted about half an hour, and during that time no effort to disperse the crowd or to put an end to the affair was made by the police.

As the crowd became more threatening, the Volunteers fired a couple of shots, which were deliberately aimed high, and passed over their heads, with the object of frightening the crowd and preventing the building being rushed. At this juncture the police, who had hitherto remained almost completely inactive, demanded admission to the Volunteer premises, and on being admitted the County Inspector, to the complete surprise of the Volunteers, suddenly ordered the police to search for arms.

The police were followed into the building by the mob, and the Volunteers were simultaneously attacked by police searching for arms and by members of the hostile crowd. In the scuffle which ensued a couple of revolvers went off, with the result that Sergeant Aherne was injured.

Several of the Volunteers were maltreated by the police and the crowd in a shocking manner.

The whole affair could easily have been prevented by the police if they had dispersed the crowd, who were smashing the windows of the Volunteer premises, but the police seemed bent upon taking action against no one but the Volunteers, who were defending themselves as best they could from the assaults of a hostile mob.

ORGANISATION.

(Continued from last week.)

SECTION COMMANDERS.

The Section Commander must know where his men live, by personal experience. Also where his Company Officers and Commandant and Vice-Commandant live. He must know his men's occupations; be acquainted with their equipment (including bicycles). He must **know** his men intimately. The importance of this knowledge is evident. Men differ. Some are slow and sure, some quick and apt, some daring. It is good to be able to pick just the man one wants for a particular job. The Section Commander should be a hustler and do his work with lightning speed. Naturally he should be a model of personal equipment and be a person to refer to in regard to a hundred and one tricks and dodges.

OFFICERS.

The Officer without note-book and pencil does not understand the rudiments of organisation. These are essentials and should be used constantly for records and memoranda. Only the exceptional man can rely entirely on his memory. The residences of his Section Commanders, his Company Officers and superiors should be known to him. He should **know** his Section Commanders, as his Section Commanders should **know** their men. He should know just what strength each section has in men and, generally speaking, in equipment; number of cyclists with mounts, and so on. His signallers should be provided with flags and lamps. Without these they are useless. Field glasses are useful.

He should be provided with a good large-scale map of his own immediate district and of his county. Dublin officers are recommended to get "Bacon's Large-Scale Plan of Dublin" (1/–), or Thom's 3d. map, as well as the inch county map. "The New Plan of Dublin" (1d.), by Dawson, Dublin, although inaccurate, is handy and useful. Bartholomew's quarter-inch to the mile maps are the most serviceable, available for general use; all Ireland in seven sheets, at 1/6 or 2/– per sheet. The Michelin Guide to the British Isles (1/6 post free from Michelin Tyre Co., Ltd., 81 Fulham Road, Chelsea, London, S.W.) contains useful but very small town-plans of Armagh, Athlone, Ballina, Ballymena, Belfast (large), Carlow, Carrick-on-Suir, Cashel, Castlebar, Clonmel, Coleraine, Cork, Derry, Drogheda, Dublin (large), Dundalk, Ennis, Enniskillen, Fethard, Galway, Kilkenny, Killarney, Limerick, Mallow, Maryborough, Monaghan, Navan, Nenagh, New Ross, Newry, Portadown, Queenstown, Sligo, Strabane, Tipperary, Tralee, Tuam, Tullamore, Waterford, Westport, Wexford.

QUARTERMASTERS.

The ideal Q.M. will have reserve stores of arms, ammunition, bandages, stretchers, splints, iodine, sacks, tools, utensils, lanterns, scaling ladders, gun-oil, pull-throughs. He will know how to estimate the food requirements of a squad, company, or battalion; the time to allow for making fires, cooking and eating; how to billet men in houses, stables, lofts; how to kill and cook fowl, pigs, sheep and beasts. The Q.M. who is not an expert in these matters should get busy instantly, or his men will slay him when the time for action comes. Moreover, he will have all supplies of food and useful stores in his district scheduled and be prepared to seize what he requires at a moment's notice; not forgetting the necessary horses, asses, carts, motors, etc., needed for transport.

GENERAL.

Mental Equipment must not be neglected. Experience can be, to an extent, anticipated. Picture to yourself numbers of situations in which you may suddenly find yourself and make imaginary arrangements accordingly—viz., Commandeering transport; defending a group of houses and a cross-road; seizing a small fort by strategy; crossing a canal or river without bridge; getting men from point to point across country unobserved. Acquire the habit of estimating requirements—concerts, meetings, excursions give some experience. Be resourceful. Read how German prisoners have escaped and learn from them to be resourceful. Headquarters, in response to an invitation, received a number of fair, good, and one or two excellent suggestions. Encourage men to work out tricks and to manufacture useful contrivances. But keep the best plans, tricks and contrivances for the moment of action.

A HINT ABOUT RIFLES.

At the present time it is impossible to purchase rifles for the Irish Volunteers; except where a chance occasionally arises of purchase from private individuals. And there are only a small number of rifles in stock, all of which are, naturally, very expensive at present.

On the other hand, the demand for rifles is not decreasing, although large numbers of the Volunteers are now coming to see that other firearms are, in ordinary conditions, quite good enough. But now the demand for rifles has taken on a new form. At the present time it is no longer the wholesale unreasoning business it was formerly. It now is a question of new corps asking for a small number of rifles for their best shots. This is a thoroughly sound principle and all possible means should be adopted to fall in with it. The high value of the expert sniper has been proved beyond all possibility of question in every field of the present European war.

The following measure would have the effect of setting free a certain number of rifles in good condition. A number—in fact, the greater number—of Volunteer officers possess rifles as well as their side-arms; and many of the officers are quite prepared to sell their rifles. And that, too, probably at a lower figure than it would be possible to purchase them from Headquarters.

As a matter of fact, there is no strong case to be made out for officers carrying rifles. The only reason put forward for the custom is that it is supposed to prevent officers being picked off; but it cannot be said that it has by any means had this result. If it is contended that the rifle is better than the sword in a bayonet charge, there is no reason why officers should not carry a half-pike or partisan, as they did in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. For the officer's fire-arm the most suitable is a good revolver or automatic pistol.

If the officer has a rifle—and means to use it—then good-bye to fire control, or control of any kind for that matter. If the officer does not intend to use the rifle, then it is far better to sell it to one who does mean to use it. The officer can exercise his duties best without firing at all, while the enemy is still at a distance. When the enemy is close at hand his revolver and pike should be a sufficient defence, if he knows how to use them.

Any officers who can should take measures to dispose of their rifles to men who are capable of making use of them. It should be, however, only to men of picked markmanship that they would be given. No delay should be permitted to occur in the matter of ascertaining the picked shots of all corps and formally detailing them as snipers.

MAYNOOTH IRISH VOLUNTEERS.

RESULT OF DRAWING IN AID OF EQUIPMENT FUND.

1st, 199; 2nd, 995; 3rd, 1776; 4th, 710; 5th, 117; 6th, 868.

D. Ua Buachalla, Hon. Sec.

Fr. Nevin and the Irish Volunteers.

Preaching at Mount Argus, Dublin, on Sunday week, when a large number of Irish Volunteers were present, Father Eugene Nevin, of the Passionist Order, spoke as follows:—

I cannot refrain from expressing the feeling of pleasure I experience in seeing such a fine body of young men here this morning, all members of the Irish Volunteers. "Clarum nomen et venerabile!" Yes, to the mind of every true Irishman the name has honoured and glorious associations, and I am confident from what I have heard, and from what I see here before me now, that if the necessity or the occasion arises, the honoured principles and associations of the men of 1782 will be fully and nobly maintained by the men of to-day. What a pity your formation has been delayed so long, delayed until the present great upheaval, when all Europe's empires, kingdoms and states have been cast into the melting-pot. And what will be evolved for us out of the steam and smoke of battle. He would be a wise man who could tell. But now that you have been formed I think, and, indeed, am quite certain, every young man in this country of military age and capacity should be in your ranks. You deserve every encouragement and support, for after all is said and done—and a great deal has been said, and very little has been done—recent events have, I think, shown us clearly enough that it is only an organisation which commands respect by reason of its numerical strength and discipline and determination, that counts for anything. The Ulster Volunteers of the other day is a standing proof of that—and shall I also say the power of such an organisation to inflict injury is one of the best reasons for its existence? Well, my dear friends and brothers, my mission is not one of war, but that of peace—"Peace, which hath its victories no less renowned than war." The Irish Volunteers of 1782 had not to strike a blow at all. They won by their splendid organisation and their firm determination what, I am sure, everyone of you here to-day is willing to fight and die for—Irish Freedom.

Dear friends, the shadow of a great betrayal is over the land. I do not like to say hard things, but though the truth is oftentimes bitter, it had better be said—it is always wholesome. We, all of us, have witnessed an infamous act of treachery to which the history of any civilized or uncivilized country can furnish no parallel. Your duty it is to blot out that disgrace and counteract that infamy. You can do it—you can do almost anything by organisation. Something surely, ought and must be done. Hence I say in the surrounding gloom, come down upon us consequent on our betrayal, the one bright spot in Ireland to-day is the parade ground of the Irish Volunteers. Therefore be zealous members; and strict adherents to the rules of your brigade. Strict discipline, subjection to command, are absolutely necessary, and without them no army is of any use whatever. And, above all, be true to the principles and practices of your Holy Faith. Catholic and Irish are, to the minds of many, synonymous. The Irishman who is true to his faith should be a good Irishman. Love of country is akin to our love of God, and he who does not love his country in good report and evil report is a poor specimen of a Catholic. It is, my dear friends, by keeping steadfastly to the practices of your Holy Faith and the rules of your organisation that you will attain the purpose for which you are banded together, perhaps, too, after the manner of the Volunteers of 1782.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADES.

The Kilkenny Irish Volunteers held the Church Parade on St. Patrick's Day, as directed by Headquarters. In addition to the City Company representatives were present from Clomantagh, Freshford, Three Castles, Dunmore, Crutt, Castlecomer, Muckalee, Johnswell, Clara, Bagnalstown, Goresbridge, Inistioge. The Kilkenny and Goresbridge Pipers Bands headed the Parade, followed by the Flag, which was guarded by fixed bayonets. Mass was heard at St. John's Church, after which the Companies paraded the principal streets. The Volunteers were dismissed in time to allow them to take part as individuals in the public procession of the Holy Family Confraternities. Lieut. O'Kelly, from Headquarters, was in command.

The Keash, Kilcreevan and Mullinabreena, Co. Sligo, Companies, at full strength and headed by their respective bands, paraded in Ballymote on St. Patrick's Day. They were joined by scores of other Volunteers from districts not yet organised, and the united Companies marched to sports which were being held in the neighbourhood of the town. The sober and orderly procession appealed so forcibly to the public that the crowds everywhere enthusiastically cheered them. The Mullinabreena Company, well drilled and fully equipped, made a very favourable impression on all who saw them. Had we only a few more corps of the physique and enthusiasm of the Mullinabreena boys in the county, we might have little to fear from Saxon aggression in the West. A feature of the day, both in the procession and out of it, was the universal sporting of the colours. Thousands wore the badges, including the cailini, who appear to have a special gradh for them. All the Volunteers wore tricolour armlets and the horsemen who led the procession tricolour scarfs.

An t-Aon Siopa amáin i mBaile-Áta-Cliaṫ gur éigin do gaṫ duine ran oiriṫ eolaṁ do beiṫ aige ar ṫeangain na n-Gaeḋeal.

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING: logically demonstrated.

You buy books from time to time.
You are an Irish-Irelander.
We are booksellers.
We employ only Irish-speaking assistants who speak Irish as well as English.
Surely no greater service can be done for the language than to give it a practical value.
The more business we do the more Irish speakers we can employ.

Now it costs no more to buy your books from us than to buy them from a non-Irish firm.
Therefore by dealing with us you do as much to promote Gaelic ideals as you would by giving a subscription for some Gaelic purpose; yet you spend no more than you would in the ordinary course of events.
The success of this Irish enterprise depends on the support of the Irish public.

Siopa na Leaḃar nGaeḋealaċ (The Irish Book Shop)
50 LOWER BAGGOT STREET, DUBLIN. Tel. 4804.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

GRAND CONCERT
Will be held in the
ANTIENT CONCERT ROOMS
SUNDAY NIGHT, 9th APRIL, 1916.
Doors open 7.30 p.m. Commencing at 8 o'clock.
ADDRESS BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

2nd DUBLIN BATTALION.
COY. "B's" CONCERT will be
SOMETHING NEW.
Address on a subject of great importance by
ARTHUR GRIFFITH,
SUNDAY, 26th MARCH—8 p.m.,
41 PARNELL SQUARE.
TICKETS—**2s.** (Reserved); **1s.**, and **6d.**

IRISH HISTORY LECTURES.
March 26.—"THE BATTLE OF BENBURB."
CAPT. O CONAILL.
ADMISSION THREEPENCE.

2nd Dublin Battalion.
COY. "B.'s" CONCERT AT 41 PARNELL SQ.
On **SUNDAY NEXT** will be the
BEST CONCERT of the SEASON
Address by
ARTHUR GRIFFITH.
TICKETS - - - **2s., 1s.,** and **6d.**

The MIRROR LAUNDRY
(DUBLIN), LTD.
DOLPHIN'S BARN, DUBLIN.
Under entirely new ownership and new and expert management. Send your linen to us. Satisfaction guaranteed. Irish Materials used. **Post paid one way on Collars and Cuffs for orders of 2/6.**

For the Institution, the Mansion or the Cottage.
You are invited to inspect our stock of
CLOSE FIRE KITCHEN RANGES
before ordering elsewhere. We guarantee them to cook perfectly, and to be economical in fuel. Our prices are right.
GLEESON, O'DEA & Co., Ltd.,
21 & 22 CHRISTCHURCH PLACE.
Estimates free. Telephone: Dublin 261.

IRISH VOLUNTEERS
Should Interview
Kelly for Bikes
See our SPECIAL CYCLES Built in DUBLIN.
Prices from **£6 6s.** *or 8/- monthly.*
NOTE ADDRESS—
2 Lower Abbey Street, Dublin.

COURT LAUNDRY,
58a HARCOURT STREET, DUBLIN.
(Proprietor, H. C. Watson).
Winners of Silver Medal for Fancy Ironing Work, and Diploma for Shirts and Collars at Manchester Laundry Exhibition, 1913. **Post Paid one way on orders of 2/6. For Collars and Shirts only.** Telephone 1848.

A Gaeḋeala, cabruiġiḋ le Gaeḋeal!
For real **Bed-rock Value** in **Groceries** and **Confectionery** try
M. O'RIORDAN AND CO.,
1 and 2 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CORK.

"Everything that is not Irish must be Foreign."
GLEESON & Co. IRISH GOODS ONLY
Irish Volunteer Tailors and Drapers,
11 UPPER O'CONNELL ST., DUBLIN.

1782——1913.
VOLUNTEERS' BOOTS.
Best ever produced for comfort and ease in marching. Made in my own workshops by skilled Irishmen, under Trade Union conditions.
Price 15/6. Reduction for Companies.
J. MALONE,
67 NORTH KING STREET, DUBLIN.

RAZORS
Ground & Set
4d. each
Postage 2½d extra

Satisfaction Guaranteed
McQUILLAN,
Tool Merchant,
35/36 Capel St.,
DUBLIN.

JOHN DALY'S
BAKERIES,
26 WILLIAM STREET
AND
SARSFIELD STREET,
LIMERICK.
All Classes of Feeding Stuffs Stocked.

DON'T FORGET
LARKIN'S
LITTLE SHOP
For Big Value in Chandlery, Tobacco, Cigarettes, etc.
IRISH GOODS A SPECIALITY.
Wexford St., Dublin.

. . Rings . .
EVERY FACILITY for choosing exactly the ring you require is offered at **GANTER BROS.** Almost unlimited selection. No hurry, no rush, no pressure. Catalogue free on request.
GANTER BROS.,
63 South Great George's Street, DUBLIN.

EQUIPMENT CHEAP.
Haversacks, Knapsacks, Belts, Waterbottles, Puttees, Military Coats (second-hand), Entrenching Shovels, Ammunition Pouches, Army Cord and Serge Breeches (new and second-hand), Revolver Holsters (new and second-hand), Marching Boots, Mess Tins. Oil, Cleaning Outfits, Knives.
SEE PRICE LISTS.
LAWLER'S, 2 Fownes's St. Dublin

TREASON! It is treason for Irishmen to buy the Foreign Article and neglect Irish Industries.
LOUGHLIN'S IRISH OUTFITTING
is better than the Foreign Shirts, Hosiery, Gloves, Braces, Hats, Caps, Boots, etc., etc. ALL IRISH. **Fair Prices.**
IRISH OUTFITTING HEADQUARTERS,
19 Parliament Street, DUBLIN.

COMFORTABLE APARTMENTS at 19 Blessington Street. **Full board; from 14s. to 17s. per week.**

Miss E. MacHugh
"63" Talbot Street, DUBLIN.
Lucania, Pierce, Swift, Rudge, B.S.A. New Bicycles. Cash. Easy Payments.
Repairs. Accessories. Second-hand Bicycles from 25/-. Prams and Gramophones Repaired.

WARPIPE BANDS.
VOLUNTEERS, we ask your support when starting Bagpipe or other Bands. We are actual makers in Ireland, and can give you better and cheaper Instruments than those who are merely Importers.
Best Uilean Bagpipes always in stock. Chanter, Bag, and Bellows, **75s.** net.
Wholesale Agent for all publications by Carl Hardebeck. Write for lists.
D. McCULLOUGH
MUSICAL WAREHOUSE,
8 HOWARD STREET, BELFAST.

W. CHASE
Tobacconist, Stationer, Fancy Goods, Chandler AND General Hardware Stores,
115 Parnell St.
DUBLIN.

"An Scáṫ a Ċéile Seaṫ Maiṙiḋ na Daoine,"—a Gaeḋeala:—
We appeal to you as a Gael only for a trial order. We are certain to give you satisfaction.
LADIES' AND GENT'S TAILOR.
Pádraig Ó Doileir,
2 LOWER ORMOND QUAY.

AUTOMOBILE SCHOOL.
VOLUNTEERS,
We give you a Complete Practical Course in Motor Car Driving, Mechanism, and repairs for **2 GUINEAS.**
Up-to-date-Cars. Certificate when competent.
4 Dartmouth Place, Ranelagh Road, DUBLIN.

CAHILL'S
MAGIC BLOOD PURIFIER, 1/- & 2/-.
Removes Pimples, Spots, Skin Eruptions, cools the blood, regulates the system.
ARTHUR J. CAHILL,
The National Chemist,
82a LOWER DORSET STREET, DUBLIN.

We are an exclusively "IRISH FIRM" employing only IRISH LABOUR.
All garments made to order in our own workshops. **EXTENSIVE STOCK** to select from, bought for **CASH** from best **IRISH MANUFACTURERS.**
SUITS, 42s. to 84s.
The Irish Tweed House :: CASH TAILORING CO.
(John Neligan, Manager),
4 CAPEL STREET, DUBLIN,
and 50 Upper George's Street, Kingstown.

Irish Made Shirts, Caps, Poplin Ties, Collars, Hosiery, etc.
THE BEST VALUE FOR CASH IN LIMERICK.
Pádraig Ó n-Allmuráin,
Draper,
10 WILLIAM STREET, LIMERICK.

Gaeḋil ir eaḋ rinn-ne
Ir ní náir' linn é.
Give us a trial order for **FRESH IRISH OATMEAL, MACROOM OATMEAL, TEAS,** from **2/4 to 3/-.** **Sent Post Free.**
MacCURTAIN BROS.,
52-54 SHANDON ST. and 40 THOMAS DAVIS ST., CORK.

The Munster Furnishing Co.,
11 ST. GEORGE'S STREET, CORK.
JOHN JENNINGS, Proprietor.
All kinds of Household Furniture—
IRISH MANUFACTURE.

CITY CLUB CIGARETTES. 10 for 4d.
TRY THEM.
P. Conway & Co.
TOBACCONISTS,
31 Exchequer Street and 10a Aungier Street.
Established 1894.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 69 (New Series). SATURDAY, APRIL 1st, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

In December, 1913, a few days after the first Irish Volunteer meeting in Dublin, the Liberal "Home Rule" Government issued two illegal proclamations to prevent the arming of the Irish Volunteers. The "Freeman's Journal" of that time was innocent enough to tell its readers that the proclamations were aimed against the arming of the opponents of Home Rule. As soon as possible the Irish Volunteers began to buy arms and ammunition. When the Liberal Home Rule Government got the chance, it stole their arms and ammunition. All this time there was no European war, and no Pretence of the Realm Act. Some months after the Proclamations were issued, and in apparent defiance of the Government, but really with the connivance of some of its members, a cargo of arms was purchased with English money and shipped to Ireland. The purchasers intended these arms to be used by Irishmen against Irishmen for the disgrace and degradation of Ireland and to supply the world with proof that a continuance of humane and civilised English domination in Ireland was necessary in the interests of humanity and civilisation. The voyage of this cargo of arms was announced in the Press while the ship that carried the cargo was still in the North Sea on its way from Germany. Notwithstanding this announcement and the Proclamations, the cargo arrived safely in Belfast Lough, and was discharged without interference at Larne and Bangor. Any officials of the Government who were thought likely to interfere or to be undesirable witnesses were held in custody. The arms were afterwards distributed without any show of interference in various parts of Ulster. Meanwhile, so far as the Government could contrive, the Irish Volunteers were prevented from acquiring arms.

* * *

I remind the reader of these facts because of the lying pretence that the present hostility of the Government to the Irish Volunteers is on account of the present war. For my own part, as a quiet student of the spirit and methods of English Government, Whig and Tory, in Ireland during my time, I have long been free from illusion on this matter. When I first decided to take part in organising Irish Volunteers, I felt perfectly certain that the project would incur as much hostility from the Whig Government as that Government would deem politic and opportune.

* * *

If the present war had not broken out, the Government would have done its best to kill the Irish Volunteer movement. As a matter of fact, for months before the war broke out, the Government was already doing its best. For what the Government is now doing, the war and the "Defence of the Realm" are just a convenient pretext.

* * *

Irish Volunteers without arms, and without the firm purpose to get arms and have arms, are a manifest humbug. Either we have no right to be Irish Volunteers at all, or having that right, and being Irish Volunteers, it is our right and our duty to arm ourselves as best we can, and to keep and defend our arms when we have got them. If our arms are demanded from us, we shall refuse to surrender them. If force is used to take them from us, we shall make the most effective resistance in our power. Let there be no mistake or misunderstanding on that point. As I said last week, we may be taken unawares here and there, but when we are not taken unawares, we shall defend our arms with our lives.

* * *

If there was law, justice, or civilised government in Ireland, the County Inspector of Police who led the attack on the Irish Volunteers at Tullamore would now be on his trial. The Press reports are of one accord in stating that he was present during a disorderly outbreak, in which the aggressors were a small rabble, who were previously supplied with a quantity of Union Jacks, presumably not to blow their noses in. This rabble, variously estimated at from sixty to a hundred individuals, does not represent the people of Tullamore. That this small rabble were entirely the aggressors against a few men and women, is the universal testimony of the newspapers. The County Inspector, according to the newspapers, instead of preserving the peace by removing the peacebreakers, used their conduct as the cover for a direct onslaught on a handful of Volunteers, and as the occasion for an attempt to disarm the Volunteers. His conduct, to my knowledge, has been condemned not only by supporters of Mr. Redmond but by Unionists. Of course, any legal trial of the County Inspector conducted by the protectors of Mr. Walter Harrell would be only more of the hypocritical sham, and we may content ourselves with the educative effect on the public if this man is not put in the dock, where he ought to be. His untainted testimony can be added by Mr. Birrell to the rest of the voluminous evidence.

* * *

When the Government ordered the Volunteer organisers out of Ireland and sent them to jail for refusing to go, its action was condemned by Nationalists of all shades of opinion all over Ireland, and was not commended—which was significant enough—by any body of Irish Unionist opinion. Since I wrote last week, the Government has again pounced on two of our organisers, Liam Mellows and Ernest Blythe, and imprisoned them, on what pretext it has not yet announced. Ernest Blythe is particularly objectionable because he is an Ulster Protestant. There is also a special reason in the case of Liam Mellows.

* * *

The "Connaught Tribune" belongs to Mr. William O'Malley, M.P., brother-in-law to Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., both being producers of the sort of journalism that pleases a not too fastidious crowd beyond the Irish Sea. Another M.P. comes into the performance. On March the 4th, the "Connaught Tribune" printed a leading article partly for the glorification of Mr. W. J. Duffy, M.P. From this article it appears that Mr. Duffy, besides £400 a year for his services in assisting the Government to impose on Ireland eight millions a year of war taxes and whatever more they demand, holds a farm at a place called Closetoken, near Loughrea. We are not told that it is a grass farm. But Mr. O'Malley's paper shows us what a great and disinterested patriot Mr. Duffy is. Referring to this farm, it asks: "Is there a case on record where **a tenant restored to an evicted holding** immediately gave the Committee of the League the right to divide the best half of it amongst the small holders?" Before going farther, I express the hope that somebody from Loughrea will let us know for a fact whether Mr. Duffy, M.P., was really a tenant restored to this holding; and secondly, before he got the land into his possession, was the condition made that the rest of it was to be sub-divided. The article informs us that, on the night of the 26th February the walls round Mr. Duffy's land were knocked down. "**More recently,**" the honest editor goes on to say, "more recently Mr. Mellows, the Sinn Fein organiser, has been brought to the parish—for what purpose we know not. The fight of the people has been won, etc. Intelligent readers who study **these two sets of circumstances** will have no difficulty in arriving at the reasons why Mr. Duffy's walls were razed to the ground." That is not enough. The patriot editor adds: "Let there be no mistake about it, these people who try to lead the young men of the country against the Party that rescued their fathers from bondage, **are seeking trouble. Up to now they have been treated with a tolerance almost akin to weakness.**" Accordingly Mr. Mellows, having been in jail before, is now in jail again.

* * *

Can anyone wonder, reading such things, that the Irish Parliamentary Party has now become powerless and contemptible in the hands of English politicians? The writer of that article knew that he was lying and he was conscious of the effect his lying might have. We shall see in time what charge Dublin Castle, thus plainly set on, will substitute for the deliberately false charge made by this organ of faction on behalf of Mr. W. J. Duffy, M.P.

* * *

Repulsive as such incidents are, let me once more remind the Irish Volunteers and the ever-increasing number of those who are being enlightened by this sort of thing as to the realities of the present political situation in Ireland, let me remind them that one of the objects of Dublin Castle is to divide the people of Ireland into violent opposing factions. We have no indignation to spare for the Duffys and O'Malleys who are now making the running for Dublin Castle. What we have to aim at is to end the whole system that imposes such barbarous degradation on the public life of Ireland. Don't stop the car for the barking of the dogs.

The principal organ of faction, the subsidised, the Great Unread, I am credibly informed, has discovered two reasons for not honestly facing the question of the ruin of Ireland by taxation. One reason is that the "Independent" has shown that the chief problem of Irish government under the Home Rule Act now won, achieved, accomplished, and assured, would be the raising of an Imperial tribute equal to the entire cost of Irish administration. The other reason is that the protest against the robbery and ruin of Ireland is associated with such persons as Mr. John Sweetman and myself. Since Mr. Sweetman and I are in the habit of going to Mass on Sundays, I suggest that the editor of the Great Unread should advise his unreaders to do otherwise, and thereby prove their thorough Imperial affection and add to the debt of gratitude. The view universally taken of his editorial counsel would deprive the advice of all immediate significance, and Mr. T. P. O'Connor could use the occasion to prove that Ireland will go any length to atone for her ungrateful and disloyal past. In any case, better far that Ireland should pay eight or ten millions a year for nothing at all, than that any advantage to her should be associated with Mr. Sweetman or Mr. MacNeill or the "Independent." Can faction go any farther?

* * *

Mr. Kilbride, M.P., has written to the Athy District Council on the taxation question. He says "the Irish Party have watched over Ireland's interests and will continue to watch over them." This beats even the generosity of Mr. Duffy, M.P. On the model of the "Connaught Tribune," I demand, is there a case on record where the firing party, having done the duty expected of them by the competent military authority, sat up night after night to wake the corpse? Question in arithmetic: If the watching from the beginning of the war till now has resulted in Eight Millions of additional taxes, what will be the result of the watching till Mr. Asquith is in Berlin? The more thoroughly decomposed the Party herring is, the more attractive it becomes to the nose of faction, and at the last meeting of the Dublin County Council, Mr. Thomas Clarke, on the subject of the ruin of Ireland by taxation, persuaded his hearers to "leave it to the Irish Party." So well they might! Three short years ago, Mr. Clarke would have called his own advice treason to Ireland.

* * *

I warn Irish Volunteers to keep all agents of Dublin Castle at arm's length. I am informed that Mr. MacDonagh, of Moycullen, now in jail on a bogus charge, was inveigled into an apparently friendly conversation at the police barrack and there pounced upon and arrested. In some instances, men have not received the usual caution when arrested, and have made statements which were afterwards produced against them in a distorted form. Irish Volunteers should make no statements to the police who arrest them, as they are guilty of no crime. There are decent men among the police, but the corruption of the Irish police has always been one of the methods of Dublin Castle, which has never yet discouraged perjury by Crown witnesses in political prosecutions. When Mr. Birrell makes a public demand for a particular class of evidence against Irish Volunteers, we can only guess what sort of demand is likely to be made in private. Dublin Castle has no use for either honour or honesty.

* * *

While Mr. Birrell is engaged in various attempts to deprive the Irish Volunteers of arms and to prevent them getting arms, he is permitting armament to proceed among those whose purpose has been announced to be "to send Home Rule to the Devil." That, however, is merely a natural consequence of the doctrine that "the coercion of Ulster"—always excepting the Nationalists of Ulster—"is unthinkable."

Now that the Government has renewed its campaign of prosecution and imprisonment against Irish Volunteers, I have to ask for renewed subscriptions to the Irish Volunteer Defence Fund. I suggest that collectors be appointed in every locality, and that individual subscribers should ask their friends for subscriptions and forward these along with their own to I. V. Headquarters. Only moderate subscriptions are expected for this purpose, not on the scale required for the arming of the Volunteers, but the defence of those who are victimised by

(Continued on page 3.)

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

With regard to recent proceedings of the Government towards the Irish Volunteers the General Council of the Irish Volunteers, which met on the 26th inst., wishes to warn the public that the general tendency of the Government's action is to force a highly dangerous situation. The Government is well aware that the possession of arms is essential to the Volunteer Organisation, and the Volunteers cannot submit to being disarmed either in numbers or detail without surrendering and abandoning the position they have held at all times since their first formation. The Volunteer Organisation also cannot maintain its efficiency without organisers. The raiding for arms and attempted disarming of men can, therefore, in the natural course of things, only be met by resistance and bloodshed.

None of the Irish Volunteers recognise or will ever recognise the right of the Government to disarm them or to imprison their officers and men in any arbitrary fashion. The Council also draws attention to the repeated instances in which the Government's action has been associated with the movements of hostile crowds which are led to believe that they act under Government approval. In the Council's belief this feature of the case is based on a deliberate policy of creating factious hostility between sections of the Irish people. Nothing need be hoped from remonstrance with the Government, but we appeal to the Irish people to look closely into the facts in every instance and keep a watch on the conduct and policy of the authorities and to fix the responsibility for any grave consequences that may arise.

Tionól do bí ag Comáirle Ġnóta Féinne Fáil ina nDúnpoirt tráthnóna D. Céadaoin, an 22ad lá de'n Mháirta, agus an Ceann Cata Éamonn Ceannt ina cathaoirleach orta.

Do rochuiġeadh neiṫe áiriṫe do ḃain le harmáil.

Do hainmniġeadh beirt timṫirí nua.

Tionól do bí ag an gComáirle Ċoitcinn D. Domhnaiġ, an 26ad lá de'n mí, agus Eoin Mac Néill, Uachtarán, ina ceannur.

Do haontuiġeadh an rún comáirle do chaoḃ-ṙgaoileadh ceana i dtaoiḃ fairéigin Ġall ag iarraidh a gcuid arm do ḃaint d'Fiannaiḃ agus timṫirí na Féinne do ċur i ngéibeann.

Do rinneadh a lán ġnóta eile.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, 22nd March, Commandant Eamonn Ceannt in the chair.

Certain matters connected with equipment were dealt with.

Two additional Organisers were appointed.

The General Council met on Sunday, 26th March, Professor Eoin Mac Neill, President, in the chair.

A statement, which is published elsewhere, was adopted as to the tyrannical action of the British Government in attempting to disarm Irish Volunteers and in arbitrarily arresting Irish Volunteer Organisers.

A large amount of other business was transacted.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS.

NO SURRENDER.

The Irish Volunteers have, since their inauguration, avowed their intention to resist forcibly any attempt to disarm them. The men in Tullamore who forcibly resisted an attempt to disarm them last week did well. They showed both discipline and courage. Their action has set a headline which must be lived up to by every individual Volunteer and by every body of Volunteers against whom a similar attempt is made.

MORE ARRESTS.

Two of the Headquarters' Organisers—Commandant Liam Mellows and Lieutenant Ernest Blythe—have, in each case for the second time, been seized by the enemy. In prison or out of prison, these men represent a power which the enemy can no more crush than he can daunt the souls of the men themselves. Mellows' and Blythe's work for the Irish Volunteers is not over. Both of them will be heard from again. In the meantime Headquarters has appointed two new Organisers, who will speed the cause.

EASTER MANŒUVRES.

As was mentioned recently in these columns, it is the intention of Headquarters to utilise the Easter, the Whitsuntide, and the August Bank Holiday periods for field training. Last year's Easter manœuvres were devoted to testing our powers of mobilisation and our capacity to carry out combined movements in accordance with a time-table. The September manœuvres of the Dublin Brigade were intended to test the staff work of Headquarters and of the Battalions. At the forthcoming Easter manœuvres it is proposed to test mobilisation again, mobilisation being understood to mean the making available of all the men's equipment and all the Company and Battalion equipment as well as of the men and Companies and Battalions themselves. It is also proposed, to a certain extent, to test quartermastering, and for this purpose one-day or two-day bivouacs or camps will be arranged in suitable localities. At Whitsuntide the operations will partake more of the nature of regular manœuvres, combined exercises between Battalion and Battalion, and, in some cases, between Brigade and Brigade being in contemplation. Preliminary details as to the Easter manœuvres will be announced in Orders which will be published next week.

EQUIPMENT.

Headquarters is issuing this week two important Leaflets on Equipment. One deals with the Field Kit of the individual Volunteer, and the other with the Field Equipment of a Volunteer Company. Copies will be sent to all affiliated Companies.

AFFILIATIONS.

So many Companies, otherwise earnest and vigorous, are remiss in the punctual forwarding of their affiliation fees that the General Council has instructed Headquarters not to recognise, for training or other purposes, Companies whose affiliations are in arrear. There was really no other way out of it.

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

MORE HEALTH NOTES.

Drinking bad water has sometimes done more damage to an army than a hard-fought battle. Even in well-disciplined armies it is difficult to prevent the men from occasionally having access to bad water, and in irregular forces engaged in irregular warfare the difficulty will be even greater. Volunteers, therefore, should try to realise the danger in advance, and a few words on the subject will be of some value.

* * *

The brightest, clearest, most sparkling water may be the most dangerous of all, swarming, perhaps, with the germs of cholera or some other equally fatal fever. Therefore, never drink at wayside wells or streams unless the water is pronounced safe by a medical man. For camps and bivouacs an absolute rule is laid down that all water must be considered impure, and must be boiled before drinking, unless certified pure by the medical officer. In connection with this we may add that the "flat" taste given to water by boiling can be removed by rapidly pouring it, when cool, from one vessel into another. When on the march you do get to water which is certified wholesome, be sure to fill your water bottle, and always set out on a march, or go on outpost duty, with your water bottle full.

* * *

"To ascertain if water is free from organic pollution, place a lump of sugar in a bottle nearly full, and cork up, and if after thus excluding the air and keeping the bottle in the light for two or three days no milky cloud is apparent, but the water remains clear, it may be considered free from sewage matter." [From "How to Keep Fit."]

There is a common delusion that the addition of wine or spirits counteracts the poisonous effect of bad water. Remember that this is not so. The only sure remedy is boiling. Finally, remember that the less water you drnik on a march the better for your marching powers; and at all times be careful lest any act of yours should foul any source of water supply.

* * *

Perhaps an even more fruitful source of disaster to the amateur army might be the common fly. These beasts, breeding and living as they do among filth and refuse, carry all kinds of contamination to the food on which they alight. A place that is infested with flies may be assumed to be unhealthy. In camp and bivouac cover up all food religiously, and kill any nies you can. Refuse must be burnt or buried deep in the earth.

* * *

These two possible sources of trouble to Volunteers are mentioned in the hope that all readers will notice and remember them. As individuals each of you must try to keep yourselves fit, and those of you who have commands of any size have the responsibility of keeping them fit. On this point the more the men realise the dangers and the remedies the better, as there will then be less difficulty in maintaining discipline, but even the best and most intelligent men may make fatal mistakes in a matter like this, and therefore supervision by officers of all grades is essential. We may mention that on route marches we have seen a fair amount of indiscriminate drinking at wayside streams, so far, fortunately, without evil result, but who knows that we shall always be lucky?

Cumann na mBan

CUMANN NA mBAN UNIFORM.

N.B.—The skirt should be cut much shorter than it appears in above. It should be at least 7 ins. from the ground to be of really practical use.

Congratulations are due to the members of Cumann na mBan at Tullamore who behaved so splendidly in the face of such a trying ordeal last week.

Several new Branches have been started since the last issue of Cumann na mBan Notes. One has been started at Bray, one at Mitchelstown, one at Lisocul, Co. Roscommon; one at Kilkenny, one at Kilfinane, Co. Limerick; one in Dublin, called Craobh Columcille; and one at Ballyferriter. Reports have arrived from Cork, Athlone, Carrickmacross and Tralee.

IRISH FINANCIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

The Executive meeting was held on the 25th instant at the Mansion House, Dublin.

A large number of letters were read dealing with the spread of the movement against the over-taxation of Ireland, and asking for speakers to address local meetings through the country.

It was announced that protests against increased taxation had been adopted by the following bodies:—Dublin Corporation, Limerick Corporation, Kilkenny Corporation, Queenstown U.D.C., Kilmacthomas Guardians, Carrickmacross U.D.C., Clonmel Guardians, Omagh Guardians, Naas Guardians, Galway U.D.C., Dublin Trades Council, Wexford Town Tenants' League, Macroom R.D.C., Thomastown R.D.C., Monaghan County Council, Athy Guardians, Thurles Urban Council, Athlone Guardians, Mountmellick Guardians, Tralee Guardians, Cootehill U.D.C., Carlow U.D.C., Carrick-on-Suir Guardians, Naas U.D.C., North Dublin Guardians, Athy U.D.C., Midleton U.D.C., Enniscorthy Guardians, Gorey Guardians, Celbridge Guardians, Balrothery District Council, Cork Consumers' League, King's Co. Committee of Agriculture.

It was decided to issue a second edition of Leaflet No. 1, "How Ireland is Plundered." The draft of Leaflet No. 2, "Why Ireland Claims Exemption," was approved. It was reported that Leaflets 3 and 4, "The Effect of Overtaxation on Districts," and "Industries Crippled by Unjust Financial Regulation," were in course of preparation and would be issued shortly.

The subject of the forthcoming Budget was discussed, and it was resolved to take immediate action on the publication of its terms.

B. J. Goff, M.A.,
J. E. Lyons,
Hon. Secs.

NOTES.

(Continued from page 1.)

the Government and who are unable to defray the expense imposed on them must be recognised as a patriotic duty. Sports, concerts, and other public gatherings give good opportunity for collecting small subscriptions, but don't let everybody expect everybody else to do it.

* * *

"Get off Ireland!" is the order of the British Imperial power to the imprisoned Volunteer Organisers. "Get out of Ireland! You have a right to be in Ireland, your own country, but we have might aganist right." These are the heroes who want to save the world from Prussianism. The last time they tried the banishment policy, it failed. Then they got the English Privy Council to confer new powers on them, the powers of forcible banishment. There is an Irish Privy Council, but war is a great thing for tearing the disguise off humbug, and showing that the Union means Ireland under England. The liberty of Irishmen is absolutely at the disposal of the English Privy Council, a body of whom Ireland knows as little as she knows of the Grand Lama of Tibet. Down with Prussianism! At the previous prosecution of the organisers in Belfast for refusing to exile themselves, the "Crown" expressed the pious wish that these men should be sent to England, where they would be treated as Irishmen who are not servile deserve. So just a week after Mr. Redmond was decorated with shamrocks, an order is issued to Irishmen to exile themselves to England. The order permits them to reside in Harrogate, where legislators go for the rest cure, or Knaresborough, Pateley Bridge, Settle and Wetherby only, in the West Riding of Yorkshire; or to Gloucestershire, except certain parts; or to Oxfordshire; or to Worcestershire, except the neighbourhood of Birmingham; to Herefordshire, Radnorshire, or part of Shropshire. Each of the Organisers was conveyed to Dublin by a strong posse of police armed with carbines. The show of force will intimidate nobody, and will make nobody lose his head with excitement. The organisation of the Volunteers will go on as it went on after the last Government outbreak, which did so much to improve and strengthen the national position. I have just been reading that, when the arms of Ireland were added to the English flag, the Earl of Northampton said the harp was a suitable emblem for Ireland—it cost them more to keep it in tune than it was worth. The Earl was a wise man. Two years of unmasked Imperialism have made the prospect of conquering the National spirit of Ireland more remote than ever in our time.

Let the tyrant bribe and lie,
March, threaten, fortify,
Loose his lawyer and his spy,
Yet we'll have our own again.

EOIN MAC NEILL.

Training Notes for Beginners,

I.—TERMS, COMMONSENSE AND A STORY.

No language lends itself so easily and so commonly to vagueness, to wooliness, to obscurity, as English. Irish Volunteers who have to use English must keep themselves wide awake in order to be sure that they understand the military terms that they use. Irish Volunteers who use Irish must make no mistake about saying what they mean, in terms of things and actions which are clear to them. They must not use word-for-word translations of English terms and phrases. In lecturing to officers I have discovered that while all know that both in attack and defence a **reserve** must be **kept in hand,** some do not understand clearly or are misled by the three terms I emphasise. The word **reserve** is a bad word. The principal thing about it in the beginning is that it is kept back, but that is not the whole of the matter. A force is reserved for a time and for a purpose. The main or general reserve is the main fighting force, reserved only until the others have developed the fight and given the commander an opportunity to strike a decisive blow. It is not a force to be reserved all the time, as some seem to think. In order to be able to strike the decisive blow, or any blow, at whatever spot the best opportunity offers, the main reserve must not be deployed until necessary. That is what is meant by keeping it in hand. But that again is not the whole matter. Ask your 2nd Lieutenant where it is to be kept, and why at the place he indicates. You may find that he has not a clear rule to guide him, a formula that he can make up for himself every time. He may not remember that, as the reserve may have to be deployed in a direction at right angles to the line of defence or of attack, the position at which it is to be kept in hand, that is, in close formation, must be chosen with reference to that fact. (With reference to what other facts?) There must be freedom of manœuvre. (What does that mean?) Work it out with him on a table with a box of matches—one match for every man you have: no imaginary forces. At next parade get him to tell off your Company as an Advanced Guard—Point, Flankers, Van-guard, Main-guard, with connecting files. He may this time imagine a Main Body that does not appear. Ask him how he is to calculate the distance between Van and Main-guards, between Main-guard and Main Body, and see if he has got any new light from your previous exercise. Then ask him if he would have a Van-guard by night as well as Point and Main-guard. Work the two things out with men and observe the differences between men and matches, between a countryside and a table.

It is all a matter of commonsense, and technical terms and book-learning are ultimately dangerous only to those who lack commonsense. They are, however, immediately dangerous in this, that they may send the mind to sleep for a time. I have seen officers make lovely little notes and button them away in their pockets while their minds were fast asleep. If, by the technical terms I have used here, the commanders of some of our small isolated Companies and Cycling Sections are discouraged, let them stay at home and study the houses they live in, or any one fairly strong two or three-storied house. How would you **hold** that house? How put it in a state of defence? Why so? From what windows would you fire on the enemy? Why, where would you get material for sandbags, good supply of water and the like? Now go further and see how you could combine the defence of this house with the defence of others, providing for communications, line of retreat and the rest. It is not necessary to think in the big strategic way. Hoe your own row. Every local commander can train his men in scouting, in taking cover, in moving across country, in the practical and likely things—above all, in observation. An officer who attended the Training Conference on the evening of our last Convention reported that when he had no enemy to work against, he made his men work across a piece of country or along the roads and bring back accurate information as to the number of goats they met. Others had developed good original plans of sending out scouts in fan formation and withdrawing them regularly. Understand that the answer to a problem worked out by yourself is infinitely more useful to you than an answer taught to you. So with things like scouting. Take a piece of country. Examine it. It is a problem ready made. Find how you would send scouts across it in a certain direction, and **get them back.** Try it with your men. When you have got them to do what you want, once—not the tenth best substitute for what you want—you will have learned more than I can teach you or put in notes. You may say that your men know all their district as they know the palms of their hands. Send them out and see how they keep touch, how they keep direction and how they come back. It is wonderful what men can do in the wrong way. Colonel Hawkins, in his book on "Night Operations," says that he has seen a whole brigade of infantry disappear and remain lost for two hours in an area hardly exceeding a square mile. I have seen a good part of a Dublin Battalion get lost in a bit of Phœnix Park. You can go on learning for a long time in your own fields. You have worked out your first problem by daylight. Take the same men out on a dark night, and get them to make just a march by a track across the same fields, in silence. Then go farther and do an advance in line. Ask yourself if your men should have their guns loaded during your night operation. (Now of course if you look at that book there is no use in my putting questions of commonsense to you.) When you know the answer, ask your men, and when they know maybe they will be keener on getting bayonets and pikes. General Pétain, the defender of Verdun, has a reserve armed with the bayonet only,—no ammunition served out. A man with a pike is a foot or two better off than the men of that reserve.

Encourage discussions of practical questions among your men. (What is a practical question—for you?) Do not let theory run away with them. If some wiseacre still wags his goatee at you about your lack of artillery, give him command of an imaginary battery placed wherever he likes in your neighbourhood, and get him to shoot your men where you post them. Get him to advance with his artillery through the hedges or even over the roads against you. (By the way, do you know what happened to the British artillery in Kilkenny some years ago during the big manœuvres that turned out such a fiasco?) If he wants to go up in the air as an aviator, let him go. He will never from there see your men, even when they move about. This is Ireland, and your hedge-bound fields are neither plains nor deserts. If he prefers to go to sea, in command of a Dreadnought, get him to be accurate in his shots, having first made up your mind where your men are, without telling him. You will learn from him. (Have you been thinking about billetting?) But be sure to get him to work against **you,** not against 100,000 Irish Volunteers in uniforms and close order, paraded at Clontarf. If you have no such whipping post, but are "onaisy in your mind," divide your force, however small, into two and work out your artillery problem with them—if you have time to spare from necessary work.

Do not study books like Von Kanonenfutter's "Movements of Massed Armies to a Flank," referred to some weeks ago in these columns by E. O'D. Also, do not take E. O'D. for gospel or official. Chew upon what he and I and others write here and elsewhere and spit out the sandy bits. But do, if you can, read books and notes on the kind of fighting you are likely to do. Do not be afraid of histories of wars like the American Civil War, or even of wars as far off as Cæsars campaigns in Gaul. They are full of information on the little important things—messages that went wrong, mistakes of subordinate commanders, mistakes even of the greatest. They, too, bring down war to commonsense. A parallel: one of our officers in Dublin some time since mistook one country road for another; Cæsar seems once to have mistaken the River Sambre for the Scheldt.

A story: Once upon a time Cæsar and Vercingetorix were on opposite sides of a river. Vercingetorix had learned a great deal in his fighting against the Romans, but not all that Cæsar knew. Cæsar wanted urgently to cross the river. Vercingetorix wanted to keep him on the wrong side: he destroyed the bridges, he guarded the fords. One night the two armies lay on opposite sides of the river, at a place where a bridge had been. In the morning Cæsar broke camp and marched off, apparently with all his forces. In reality, under cover of darkness he had withdrawn a part of his force out of sight back from the river, and marched a narrowed column of the usual length. He had discovered what it was that his opponent had not yet learned—to protect his rear. The two armies marched off as usual, like a Dublin Volunteer officer and a G-man on opposite sides of a road. Then, when the rear of the Gaulish column had passed, out come the Roman engineers and ran up the bridge. The rest was easy—for Cæsar. Look behind you at times.

TH. MACD.

THE DUBLIN BRIGADE.

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 2nd, 1916.

1. Classes as usual.
2. Usual Lecture for Officers, Tuesday, at 8 p.m.
3. Meeting of all Officers on Saturday, April 1st, 8 p.m.
4. On Sunday, April 2nd, the 2nd and 5th Battalions will have a Field Day.
5. Eoin Mac Neill will deliver a lecture on **Irish Military Organisation** at 25 Parnell Square, on Sunday, April 2nd, at 8 p.m.

M. W. O'REILLY, Deputy Adjt.

Görgei and the Hungarian Army.

V.—MEASURES OF REORGANISATION.

After the discreditable defeat of Schwechat Görgei was appointed to the chief command of the Hungarian troops and at once set to work to overhaul the system of administration in all branches. With regard to the appointment of officers he adopted the following measures:—

"All favouritism in the promotions must for ever entirely cease. . . . The promotion of officers within certain limits ought to be confided to the commander of the army alone. Either the commander of the army deserves this confidence; and then there is no risk run; or he does not deserve it, and then away with him! Only no half-measures. . . . The sergeant-majors of hussars, V. and H., who have been promoted to the rank of lieutenants, I pray to have removed to another regiment, because these are the persons who, when in Galicia—for the purpose of enabling themselves to return with their men to Hungary—carried along with them their superior officer, whom they bound; and thus committed the greatest military crime, though from patriotic motives. The country rewards their zealous patriotism by promotion; but the service strictly requires that they be removed from the ranks of that body of troops, where they serve only as dangerous examples of rewarded disobedience."

With regard to the reorganisation of the troops generally, Görgei's aim was to bring about, if possible, one uniform of training and efficiency throughout the entire army.

"All irregular bodies of troops must be strictly kept apart from the regular, and placed under their own separate commanders. The best plan would be to disband immediately all irregular troops; to re-engage separately those individuals among them who are bound to military service, and to employ them for completing the bodies of regular troops already existing. . . . Some have advanced the opinion that one battalion of Volunteers or National Guards placed between two Honvéd battalions is equivalent to a third Honvéd battalion. While there is no danger that this may be so; but at the first grape-shot the Volunteer battalion runs voluntarily away, and as a rule carries off with it involuntarily both Honvéd battalions to its right and left. There have been exceptions, but how many? . . . All the divisions of the National Guard which did not engage themselves for the duration of the war must be immediately disbanded; . . . it seems to exist only for the purpose of scoffing at the laws, and pestiferously infecting our best-disciplined troops with the bad spirit by which it is itself pervaded. . . . The period of service of the battalion of the Borsod National Guards expires on the 20th of this month; and already on the 10th have these people demanded to return home. They have repeatedly declared that they will positively not continue any longer; for they are not such fools as to expose again their dear lives in the last five days of their service, after the good God has preserved them hitherto from the fire of the enemy's guns. I have consequently not the least reason to

lament the departure of these zealous patriots; but certainly cause enough to complain of the loss of so many good muskets and equipments. I have therefore desired the royal commissary at least to retain their arms for the defence of the country, though he dismiss the men. . . . 'Your army is already weak, and yet you weaken it still further!' might be said of my not forcibly detaining the home-sick. I know this well, but still cannot do otherwise; and the less so, as I have a settled conviction that though my small army, by such departures as these, will certainly be weakened in numbers, it will nevertheless be morally strengthened; for in war there is nothing more disheartening to the soldier than the apprehension of being left in the lurch by his comrade."

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 70 (New Series). SATURDAY, APRIL 8th, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

Last week I wrote about the Government's illegal Proclamations of December, 1913. For a year and a half the Liberal Home Rule Government had placed no obstacle in the way of English Unionists who were fomenting and financing the organisation of "Civil War" in Ireland. So long as arming and drilling meant no more than that Irishmen, with the aid of English money, English politicians and the English Press, should prepare to disgrace the name of Ireland with a bloody outbreak against Irishmen—just so long there was no serious interference. The right to organise, train and arm "for the perpetuation of hatred," was fully established by the consent of both English parties. But when a body of Irishmen, seeing this, determined to use the same right, not for a bloody feud, not for a "massacre" in Ireland, not for the perpetuation of hatred, but "to secure and maintain the liberties common to **all the people of Ireland,"** the Liberal Home Rule Government immediately took alarm and launched its two illegal Proclamations against the importations of arms into Ireland. This step was taken within a week of the first public meeting in Dublin for the organisation of the Irish Volunteers. The instrument chosen for the repression of Irish liberty was the English Privy Council, meeting in Buckingham Palace. Observe the Home Rule spirit and the British Democratic spirit and method of a Liberal Home Rule Ministry when the mere Irish are concerned. There is no discussion in Parliament, no preparation of the public mind. There is a secret interchange of views between Party leaders, followed by an Imperial ukase from Buckingham Palace.

* * *

It was the same instrument of legislation for Ireland, the English Privy Council in Buckingham Palace, that empowered the English military government in Ireland to banish by forcible deportation from Ireland any Irishman who, in the opinion of Major Price, the Inspector of Police chosen by Mr. Birrell to be Chief Intelligence Officer and political adviser to General Friend, may suitably be deprived of liberty without any form of trial. By the same token, I again remind the public that Mr. Birrell, having gone through the solemn farce of dismissing Mr. W. V. Harrell for the failure of his projected coup at Howth and Clontarf, afterwards made amends by assigning Mr. Harrell as Intelligence Officer and political adviser to the Imperial Naval Authority in Ireland.

* * *

The illegal Proclamations of December, 1913, —was Mr. Redmond consulted about them?—if they failed in their immediate object, the quenching of the Irish Volunteer Movement, nevertheless rendered a signal service to the Liberal Home Rule Ministry; before that Ministry they placed Messrs. Redmond, Dillon, Devlin and O'Connor, claiming to be National leaders, in the position of leaders of a faction, men who were willing to acquiesce in the use of English coercion and the straining of English authority as an earthwork protecting them in their jealous fear of the exercise of Irish liberty by Irishmen. These men were thus manœuvred into a position which Parnell, with his clear insight into English policy, never consented to occupy. They became, and have ever since remained, the allies of an English Government against Nationalist Irishmen.

* * *

It was only a year or two before this that Mr. Redmond, in his responsible capacity as leader of the Irish Party, had warned the Irish people to "trust no British Government." When the Government showed its hand in the Arms Proclamations, I foresaw the danger that the Irish Party might be manœuvred into a false position. Towards them, of course, the Government could pretend that the Proclamations were directed against the Unionist menace of "Civil War." That pretence can no longer be made. The whole public would laugh at it. My opportunity came at the moment. The "Daily Independent" and the "Irish Times" sent representatives to interview me on the subject of the Proclamations. In their offices, apparently, there was not much illusion about the real purpose of the Government. Both papers published my statement, the whole object of which was to prevent the Irish Party or the Irish People from being circumvented by the Government manœuvres. I pointed out in plain words that an English Proclamation against the importation of arms into Ireland, no matter under what pretence, was a piece of special legislation directed towards the repression of liberty in Ireland, in principle identical with all the Coercion Acts enacted against Irish liberty since the Union, and that any Irish Nationalist who would countenance such a measure would be false to the principles and professions of Irish Nationalism. I also said that the Proclamations were, in themselves, illegal and invalid, an abuse of authority by the Liberal and Democratic Government.

* * *

The "Freeman's Journal" did not ask me for my view, but it got it, nevertheless, and got it promptly. I may say that there was not one of the supporters of Mr. Redmond, including myself, on the Provisional Committee of the Irish Volunteers, who was not deeply convinced at this time and afterwards of the thorough hostility of the Liberal Home Rule Government to the Irish Volunteer movement, during the winter of 1913-1914. I can supply the proof.

* * *

It followed that Mr. Redmond, Mr. Dillon and Mr. Devlin did not openly support the new Coercion. I cannot answer for Mr. T. P. O'Connor, whose publications I am not in the habit of reading. But they all gave their tacit support to the Government Proclamations, and from that hour they were beaten men. The Government had found out their weakness and held them in the hollow of its hand. Within four months of the Proclamation surrender, the Government forced the Partition surrender on them, and the Nationalists of Ulster were sacrificed to the fears of men who, when they were put to the test, showed the Government that they stood for a faction and not for a Nation.

* * *

The fact that the Nation, in spite of Mr. Redmond's secret counsels, adopted the Volunteer movement, only drove Mr. Redmond farther into the morass of faction and into the toils of Liberal diplomacy. When the underhand attempts to discourage the Irish Volunteers had plainly failed, Mr. Redmond, long before he came into the open, adopted an equally underhand policy of getting control of the very movement which he had sought to discourage. If proof is required, again I can supply it. And it is the self same Mr. Redmond who, at the dictation of his English masters, now in a public letter to Mr. Governey, charges me with "dishonesty," because I say that **the present war taxation** involves the economic ruin of Ireland.

* * *

That is a very plain statement. I say that if Ireland is taxed **on the present scale** for the period during which the present scale or a larger scale is anticipated on all hands to hold for British taxation, then Ireland will be economically ruined. I say that for Ireland and for Irishmen this is a far graver matter than any Imperial interest whatsoever. It is not going to be stifled by the catchwords of faction. The same machinery is now at work to suppress the agitation against ruinous taxes as was at work in the winter of 1913-1914 to suppress the Volunteer movement. That attempt failed. This attempt will fail. When the attempt to suppress the Volunteers failed, Mr. Redmond, with the British Government at his back or on his back, tried to take charge of the Volunteer Movement. "Ninety five per cent.," he announced in one of his august manifestoes, "ninety-five per cent." of the then unarmed Volunteers were at his bidding. The cry was raised then, as it is raised now, of "leave it to the Irish Party." In time, Mr. Redmond got all the control he wanted of a large body of Volunteers, with the patronage and commendation of the Government. The combination was too much for anything National. I am far from gloating over it. Over and over again I have advised National Volunteers—Mr. Redmond's section—if they believed in their position, to stick to their organisation and to get themselves trained and armed. Some of them have done so, but most of them have succumbed to the blighting influences against which they were powerless, because they could not understand.

* * *

The movement to protect Ireland against economic ruin will make headway in spite of every influence, because it has truth and patriotism on its side, like the Volunteer movement. And when Mr. Redmond has failed to stifle it, as he failed to stifle the Volunteer movement, he will then endeavour to take it under his wing, as in the case of the Volunteer movement, with the approval of Mr. Asquith. He will quickly discover, what he now refuses to recognise, that the ruin of Ireland is too great a price to pay for the gratitude of the British Democracy and Oligarchy. Wait and see!

* * *

Forewarned is forearmed. The Irish members of Parliament are the servants of the Irish People. It is their duty to obey the mandate, not to give it. Twice already, during Mr. Redmond's leadership, the people have enforced their mandate against the leader, and the Party has survived. In fact, the Party reached its maximum of efficiency when it was forced to reject the Councils Bill, and it is now reduced to impotence because Mr. Redmond has succeeded for the time in setting up a sort of dictatorship, a dictated dictatorship. Mr. Redmond says that I am trying to undermine the Irish Party. If he accused me of trying to underprop it, he might be nearer the mark. It is he himself who is undermining it.

* * *

He also says I am a "Pro-German." To which I reply, that if ever the Kaiser becomes master of the situation in Ireland, the very people who are now howling "Pro-German"—Unionists not excepted—will be as servile towards Germany as they now are towards the present Predominant Partner. I will take a figure of speech from Geoffrey Keating. I do not accept it as the destiny of Ireland, my mother country, to play the harlot to any alien Power, and I do not envy the son of Ireland who takes upon himself the office of procurer.

* * *

Mr. Redmond knows exactly, no man better, what the value is of this taunt of Pro-Germanism. Mr. Redmond never discovered the terrible menace of Germany until an English Ministry began to shape his utterances. During all those years before the war, while England and Russia, those great champions of liberty, were preparing to save us from Prussian oppression, not one word about Prussianism and the German menace ever escaped the lips of Mr. Redmond. Never, till Irishmen were wanted to clear the way for attack and to hold the ground for retreat, was a word about the German menace heard in any League branch or Board of Erin lodge. When Mr. Redmond says I am a pro-German, he no doubt feels he is piling up that "debt of gratitude," and if it accords with his code of honour, I am satisfied to note the fact; and if I say that the present scale of Imperial taxation means the ruin of Ireland, and if Mr. Redmond can find no better answer than "Yah! you are a pro-German," I am also satisfied to keep the two statements before the Irish public as long as may be necessary.

* * *

There is, however, another aspect of this servile taunt which must be plain enough to Mr. Redmond himself. When he says that I am a pro-German, he encourages his allies in the programme of prosecution, arbitrary imprisonment, banishment, perjury and all the rest of it against my comrades, the officers of the Irish Volunteers, and he makes himself responsible for all that programme. We have in Ireland at present both a part of what Mr. Redmond calls "Ireland's army," mainly officered by Unionists who have not been converted and have no intention of being converted to the "debt of gratitude" doctrine. We have also a large body of English troops under English officers. We can remember the state of things in these militarist circles this time two years ago, when there was no war with Germany, and remembering it we know that no cry of "Pro-German" from Mr. Redmond or the "Freeman's Journal" is necessary to arouse among these defenders of liberty and small nations the feelings which were entertained in the same circles two years ago towards Irishmen who claim for Ireland the right of selfgovernment. Some of these gentry are now going about slapping their canes against their legs and saying what they will do with Sinn Feiners when they get the chance, which, with all their martial ardour, they hope will not be anything like an even chance. Mr. Redmond, whom they regard as a "blighter," is obliging enough to choose language for their encouragement.

* * *

Four years ago, on the 31st of March, 1912, Mr. Redmond addressed an immense audience in O'Connell Street, Dublin, in support of the policy for which he held an electoral mandate. I was there to support him, and I spoke from one of his platforms. On the same platform, another speaker, who has since become a supporter of Mr. Redmond's Sharp Curve policy for which he

has no electoral mandate, denounced the Irish "Daily Independent"—for what? For floating the Union Jack over its office in front of that platform. Now Mr. Redmond can address no meeting in Dublin that is not either a packed meeting or a protected meeting—not that he is in any greater personal danger than that of being metaphorically hanged on a metaphorical sour appl e tree—but because his conduct no longer commands the respect of the people of Dublin, and could receive no show of respect from them. On the other hand, I being a Nobody, claiming no infallibility, submitting my arguments to every criticism, expecting no votes of confidence, can speak to free, unpacked, unprotected audiences of my fellow-citizens. The cause for which Mr. Redmond stands has a tremendous backing. The cause for which I stand, ever since I parted company with Mr. Redmond, has been steadily gaining ground, until now we have the Whigs in Ireland and the anti-Irish Press of London acknowledging the fact and shrieking for our suppression. Why are we gaining ground? Two years ago we were not "tried and experienced men"—since then, many of us have been tried and some of us imprisoned without trial. We were wanting in public capacity and in understanding of affairs. We were Nobodies and brainless cranks. We had not the Press on our side. We had not wealth and "society" and government machinery and party machinery on our side. Yet those who are against us admit that we have gained ground and are still gaining ground, and they are plainly afraid that we shall gain the whole ground. So they demand that brute force shall come to the aid of angelic virtue and spotless truth and wipe us out of existence.

* * *

At the Mansion House meeting on Friday, I said one thing that the daily papers did not report, so I shall report it myself. At the "trial" of the Irish Volunteer Organisers in Belfast, the representative of the Competent Military Authority, giving evidence, said that, if he had his way, the delinquents would be deported to England, where they would be treated as they deserved. The English Privy Council, which has now charge of Irish liberty, accordingly issued a ukase immediately afterwards, empowering the Competent Military Authority to forcibly deport unwilling Irishmen to England. The public will now understand the true meaning of deportation to England by Mr. Redmond's allies. We may call it the Saxonia method.

* * *

At the Mansion House meeting, Alderman Tom Kelly charged a member of Parliament with having recently repeated, within closed doors, the lie that can no longer face the public, that the Irish Volunteers are armed with the help of German money. The English Whigs have gained one victory at all events. They have destroyed the last vestige of selfrespect in their chief Irish associates. Needs must when the Devil drives.

* * *

My purpose is to expose the degradation which Predominant Partnership must inevitably impose on any set of Irishmen allied with it. Already that degradation had been imposed on the Unionists of Ireland. It is now taking possession of Mr. Redmond and his followers. The "Connaught Tribune" might have its neighbour, Lord Ashtown, for Editor. But I once more repeat the warning against faction. I have never countenanced the doctrine that Irish Unionists, however much they have been practised upon, are our National enemies. When I use my right as a free Irishman to point out the degradation imposed on Mr. Redmond and his abettors, I warn all who read my words to keep all their indignation for the infamous system that glories in this shame of Ireland.

* * *

The speakers at the open-air meeting in Dublin on Saturday advised their hearers to avoid all noisy demonstrations. That is sound advice. People have something more serious to spend their energy on than the relief of their feelings for the moment.

EOIN MAC NEILL.

THE DUBLIN BRIGADE.

Orders for Week ending April 9th, 1916.

1. First-Aid and Signalling Classes as usual. All other classes discontinued.
2. Usual Lecture for Officers on Saturday only at 8 p.m.

M. W. O'REILLY, Deputy Adjt.

A NEW TRACT.

P. H. Pearse's pamphlet on "The Separatist Idea" (being a sequel to his "Ghosts") has been added to the Tracts series. Wholesale from Whelan & Son; price one penny; postage free on quantities of a dozen.

LIVERPOOL "B" COMPANY.—Drawing for .45 Service Revolver:—Winning number, 1427.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comairle Ġnóta Féinne Fáil ina nDúnport tráthnóna D. Céadaoin, an 29ad lá de'n Márta, agus an tOide Eoin Mac Néill, Uachtarán, ina Cathaoirleach orta.

Do haontuiġeadh go labhróchadh an tUachtarán i n-ainm na Féinne ag an gcruinniuġadh puibliḋe do bíothar do tionólaḋ i dtaoiḃ díbeartha timcheall na Comairle.

Do hainmniġeadh roinnt oifiġeach agus do rocruiġeadh i dtaoiḃ imtheacht na dTimcheall.

AINMUIĠTE.

An Buideau Ceannuir.
Timcheall.

An tOġlách Earnán de Blaġd chum beith ina Leas-Chaptaon.

An tOġlách Ailfrid Ó Muineacháin chum beith ina Leas-Chapaon.

An tOġlách Pádraic Ó Braonáin chum beith ina Leas-Chaptaon.

Mise,
PÁDRAIC MAC PIARAIS,
Ceann Cata,
Riaraiḋe an Oifuiġte.

Dúnport na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 3 Aib., 1916.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, March 29th, Professor Eoin Mac Neill, President, in the chair.

It was agreed that the President should speak on behalf of the Irish Volunteers at the public meeting with regard to the threatened banishment of Volunteer Organisers.

Several appointments of officers were approved and arrangements made with regard to the movements of Organisers.

EASTER MANŒUVRES, 1916.
General Orders.

1. Following the lines of last year, every unit of the Irish Volunteers will hold Manœuvres during the Easter Holidays. The object of the manœuvres is to test **mobilisation with equipment.**
2. In Brigade Districts the Manœuvres will be carried out under the orders of the Brigade Commandants; in Battalion Districts not yet organised as Brigades, under the orders of the Battalion Commandants; and in the case of Companies not yet grouped into Battalions, under the orders of the Company Commanders. In the case of the Dublin Brigade, the Manœuvres will, as last year, be carried out under the direction of the Headquarters General Staff.
3. Each Brigade, Battalion, or Company Commander, as the case may be, will, on or before 1st May next, send to the Director of Organisation a detailed report on the Manœuvres carried out by his unit.

P. H. PEARSE, Commandant,
Director of Organisation.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson St.,
Dublin, 3rd April, 1916.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS.

THE ENEMY BLUNDERS.

Since last week's Notes from Headquarters were written the enemy has ordered the two kidnapped Organisers, Commandant Liam Mellows and Lieutenant Ernest Blythe, to expatriate themselves under threat of forcible expatriation. A similar order has been given to a third Organiser, Lieutenant Alfred Monaghan, not yet kidnapped. The object of this piece of militarism was plainly to provoke the Irish Volunteers to do something rash and unconsidered. The object has failed. As the President of the Irish Volunteers announced at the huge meeting of protest in the Dublin Mansion House, the Irish Volunteers are not going to be trapped into doing what the enemy wants—into striking at the time and under the conditions dictated by him. They will simply go on with their preparations. The effect of the enemy's action, as far as the Irish Volunteers are concerned, has been to produce a wave of public feeling in their favour similar to that which surged through the country after the Howth gun-running and the Bachelor's Walk shooting; a wave of feeling which has not stopped short at sympathy, for the Dublin Brigade has had an influx of recruits comparable to that which came in July, 1914, after Howth and Bachelor's Walk. The week's recruits are numbered not by scores but literally by hundreds. As long as the enemy plays our game in this way we are content.

THE EASTER MANŒUVRES.

General Orders published this week indicate the lines on which the Easter Manœuvres are to be held. They are designed, as were last year's, to test mobilisation; and mobilisation is to be understood to include the making available of all the men's and all the Company equipment as well as of the men themselves. Commanders should set to work immediately with the object of securing that the mobilisation be absolutely complete and satisfactory. Later on, at Whitsuntide, we can test some other part of our training. But let Easter set a good headline.

EQUIPMENT.

Two leaflets on Equipment were issued last week and are now being sent out to Companies. One gives the Field Kit for the individual Volunteer, and the other the Field Equipment for Volunteer Companies. A copy of the first should be handed to every Volunteer by the Company Commanders, so that every man may clearly know what he is expected to bring with him on field days. As for the Company Equipment, the Commanders and Quartermasters should busy themselves at once with the completion of their stores.

TEST YOUR GUNS.

We find it necessary to repeat our injunction to everyone concerned to **test** all rifles, revolvers, and automatics which are in the hands of Volunteers. Many guns have a slight and easily-remedied defect of one sort or another which ought to be attended to in time. Every Company should by now have its qualified armourer.

Cumann na mBan

BALLOT FOR ARMS.

The above Ballot has received an excellent response from the Volunteer Companies throughout Ireland. Complaints have been made, however, that the short space allowed for entry has made it difficult for the Corps in remote districts to take part. Recognising this, Cumann na mBan Executive has decided to postpone the Drawing till Wednesday, April 19th. Entries (£1) will be received up to Monday evening, April 17th. Prizes consist of a 1st of 20 guns, and 2nd and subsequent prizes of 10 guns each, up to the full amount of the money subscribed. Cumann na mBan Branches may enter.

BRAY RALLIES.

The National Concert organised by the recently-started Branch of Cumann na mBan in Bray will be held at the Arcadia, on Tuesday, April 11th, at 8 p.m. The artistes who have kindly consented to assist include Misses Creegan, Davin, Murphy, M. Ryan and F. Ryan, and Messrs. Cox, Crofts, Neeson, Nunan, Brian na Banban, Seosamh Mac Cathmhaoil, Cairraighe O Roidean. It is interesting to find that virile nationalism in Bray can organise a concert of such a high standard, and the promoters hope that it will receive the wholehearted support of every person of national sentiments in Bray, and that many Dublin Nationalists will attend the concert and support this effort of a new and untried Branch to promote national propaganda in Bray. Tickets can be had at Cumann na mBan Office, I. V. Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street.

Membership cards are now ready for all Branches. They can he had on application by Branch Secretaries to the Secretary, Cumann na mBan, 2 Dawson Street. Defence of Ireland collecting cards can also be had at Headquarters, and we hope there will be many applications for them, as many parts of the country where new Branches have been started would probably contribute towards the fund if the cards were in circulation.

NIGHT OPERATIONS.

5.—NIGHT ASSAULTS (Continued).

THE ADVANCE.—(1) Before the advance all orders must be explained so that everyone may know: (a) **The object** and the **direction** of the objective; (b) the **formation** adopted; (c) his own duty; (d) his action in case the **enemy is not surprised.**

(2) Instructions: (a) **Rifles not to be loaded.** Magazines to be charged and **cut-offs closed. No one to fire without orders;** (b) till daylight, **bayonets only** to be used; (c) absolute **silence;** equipment must not rattle; (d) **no smoking;** no matches to be struck; (e) if obstacles are met, troops will **lie down** till they are cleared away.

(3) **Lateral Communications** must be maintained, so that the assaults may be delivered simultaneously.

(4) Hostile **patrols, scouts,** etc., must be got rid of **without noise.** Rush them silently with the bayonet.

(5) If, after deployment, the enemy opens fire, every man must understand that he must **press forward at once,** at any cost. Surprise can never be complete, and so a volley or so must be expected before you get to grips. No movement to the rear can be permitted. **Section Commanders** must see to this.

(6) If the assault at dawn succeeds, the enemy should be followed up by mounted troops. If it fails, mounted troops should protect the retiring infantry.

BANISHMENT OF IRISHMEN

GREAT MEETING OF NATIONAL PROTEST IN DUBLIN.

On Thursday night a great and enthusiastic assembly, thoroughly representative of the people of Dublin, thronged the Dublin Mansion House in answer to a summons issued that day, to "protest against the banishment of Irishmen from Ireland." Enormous crowds were unable to gain admission to the Round Room, and it was found necessary to hold overflow meetings in the Pillar Room and in the front of the building.

Alderman Corrigan, locum tenens for the Lord Mayor, who presided in the Round Room, said he felt highly honoured in being asked to take the chair at that vast assembly, and he deeply regretted the cause that had gathered them together. It was a terrible thing in the twentieth century that Irishmen could be expatriated without having committed any crime. (Applause.)

Mr. John Fitzgibbon read letters apologising for non-attendance and expressing sympathy with the objects of the meeting from the Very Rev. Archdeacon MacKenna, P.P., V.G., Carrickmacross; Rev. Fr. Fullerton, C.C., Belfast; Rev. Matt. Ryan, P.P., Knockavilla, Co. Tipperary; Rev. M. Hayes, C.C., Newcastle West, Co. Limerick; Fr. Murphy, Wexford; Fr. Maguire, Inniskeen; Rev. Francis A. Gleeson, C.C., Dublin; Rev. T. de Bhall, C.C., Drumcollogher, Co. Limerick; Fr. Burbage, Carlow; Fr. O'Meehan, Kinvara; Fr. O Ciarain, Rockcorry; Fr. O'Daly, Clogher; Rev. P. O'Flanagan, C.C., Ringsend; Miss Catherine Mahon, Ex-President, National Teachers' Association; Mr. Laurence Ginnell, M.P.; Mr. James O'Shea, Chairman, Killarney Rural Council; Alderman Corish, Wexford; Alderman Power, Ex-Mayor of Waterford; Dr. O Gruagain, Scariff, Co. Clare; Mr. John Sweetman, Drumbaragh, Kells; Mr. Michael O'Callaghan, T.C., Limerick; Mr. James Dolan, Manorhamilton; Mr. James Dalton, T.C., Limerick; Mr. Joesph O'Flaherty, Loughrea, Galway; Professor Mac Enri, Galway University; Dr. McCartin, Gortin, Co. Tyrone; Mr. Walsh, T.C., P.L.G., Limerick; Mr. Joseph Dolan, Ardee, Co. Louth; Loughrea Corps and Granard Corps, Irish Volunteers; and the Editor, "Kerryman," Tralee.

Alderman Thomas Kelly, who was received with loud applause, proposed the following resolution:—"That this public meeting of Dublin citizens in the Mansion House of Dublin asks all the Irish people to join in opposing the Government's attempt, unanimously condemned by national opinion last year, and now renewed, to send Irishmen into banishment from Ireland." He said he had in his hand a copy of the London "Times" for March 4th, containing a two-column article, headed "Mischief in Ireland," "Continued Inactivity," "The Growth of Sinn Fein," in which the Government were denounced for their masterly inactivity in Ireland. The article quoted from the "Spark" as a specimen of the "disloyal Press," and described where it was printed. Shortly afterwards the printing premises in question were raided by a big body of police and military, who broke up the plant and machinery. This was the first great victory for the Northcliffe campaign. (Laughter and applause.) So Northcliffe's venomous fangs were now to be thrust into the throat of Ireland—for this was what the article meant. The Northcliffe campaign had had another victory in the seizure of two young Irishmen, against whom there was no charge, and their threatened deportation from Ireland by military force, the same tactics exactly as were carried out in the seventeenth century under the Cromwellian regime. They only wanted to be left alone in their own country. The Irish Volunteers had as good a right to drill and arm as any other Volunteers. As a man anxious for peace who did not desire the horrors of war, he hoped that commonsense would enter into the counsels of Dublin Castle, because this injustice would rankle in the hearts of the people of Ireland and would probably recoil on the heads of the British Administration in a manner they never expected.

Rev. Fr. O'Connolly, C.C., Ballinasloe, seconded the resolution. He said they were called upon to face the most serious problem that Ireland had been called upon to face for many years—the extinction of the last ray of freedom of our race, and whether they should submit without a murmur or show they were determined to prevent it. (Applause.) Was the substance of the shadow of a charge even made against these fellow-countrymen of theirs, whose banishment was decreed? No, it was not necessary in this isle of freedom, this "one bright spot." (Laughter and applause.) Their crime was that they loved the soil of Ireland, that they claimed for Ireland what England boasted she was fighting to gain for Belgium and Servia, the right of freedom. (Applause.) If they deserved banishment for loving their country and believing she should be free, then every man and woman present should be shipped from the shores of Ireland before the morning light. (Applause.) The Tullamore incident might be made an excuse. Well, in the Tullamore incident, the Irish Volunteers covered themselves with glory. (Applause.) Blythe and Mellows could not in any case be connected with the Tullamore incident. They were only trying to do for the Nationalists of Ireland what high Government officials did for the Orangemen and Unionists. They were not being banished to America—Irish-America was too well known. (Applause.) They were not being banished to a neutral country, where they would have a chance of making a living. They were being banished to a hostile country, whose blackguards and slackers only a few months ago outraged our Irish emigrants (applause), where they would receive only insult and injury and die of starvation. To prevent this they must take such means as would be decided by the Irish Volunteers. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

Professor Eoin Mac Neill, who was enthusiastically received, denounced as a lie the pretence that this attempt to assert a military domination over the people of Ireland was caused by the military necessities of the present war. They began this policy the very week the Irish Volunteers were formed, before one soul of them thought of a European war. They were arresting Irish Volunteers because they were now what they always were, and they were the same a hundred years ago (applause), trying to crush Irish nationality. He knew Blythe and Mellows well as honest and honourable men, who did not care what sacrifice was exacted from them for the sake of Ireland—down to the last sacrifice. When the Government attacked these men before and public opinion in Ireland rose against them, they took them to be tried in Belfast, in order to persuade the Belfast Unionists that they were at their back if they wished to engage in any murderous campaign here in Ireland. When the two men were on trial in Belfast their prosecutor said they should be sent to England, "where they would be treated as they deserved." So now they were being sent to England. Whatever the crime of which these men were guilty, he thought he might say that everyone at that meeting took the crime on themselves. (Applause.) Another pretence against these men was that their conduct had been prejudicial to recruitment. Now let them produce the evidence and give these men a trial. In whatever degree these men were guilty of that crime, he (the speaker) was guilty of it, and if they could make anything of it let them bring it to trial. An outrage had been prepared, and, he believed, with a deliberate object—the hope that those who were responsible for the Irish Volunteer Movement would allow their conduct and line of action to be dictated to them and laid down for them by those who were their enemies, who would be able to make their plans accordingly. It was thought that they would be provoked and exasperated to such a degree that either those responsible would lose self-control or that the men of the Irish Volunteers would lose their discipline. He wished to state that the Volunteers' plans would still be their plans and their policy would be their policy (applause), and they would not be diverted from what they had undertaken to do by attempts at exasperation or provocation. There were certain points where they would draw the line, and they had drawn it already. There was one thing they were determined on, that Irish Volunteers meant armed Irish Volunteers. (Applause). They were bound in honour, for the sake of their country, in order to protect her against an intolerable tyranny, to preserve their arms. (Applause.) The Irish Volunteers were now stronger in every way than they were twelve months ago, they were becoming stronger every day. If the Government desired to suppress the Irish Volunteers there was one possible way to do it. Let them move their military forces against them. (Loud and prolonged cheering.) "Let them call out the forces of the Crown against us and we will meet them. (Cheers.) Whether it is on equal terms, or two or five or twenty or forty to one, let them come against us and we will not shirk it. (Applause.) And until they lead their forces against us we will go on as we have gone on up to the present with preparations." (Applause.) For these two good men whom the British Government had seized they would gain men by hundreds and thousands. Whether Blythe and Mellows were deported to England or not, they had already defeated the object which was hoped to be secured by arresting those men. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

Mr. Sheehy-Skeffington said that somebody in Dublin Castle was evidently looking for trouble. Ever since the Irish Volunteers paraded in College Green on St. Patrick's Day there had been indications that someone, whether General Friend or another, was anxious to provoke bloodshed. He referred to the incident in Tullamore and the raiding of the Gaelic Press as cases in point, and dwelt in detail on the various instances of the use of the Defence of the Realm Act to establish a military despotism in Ireland. So long as the deported men were withdrawn from the field of national activity, those left behind must redouble their energies. Once a clear issue was knit, every true Nationalist was for Ireland and against British opinion. (Applause.)

Rev. Fr. Costello, C.C., SS. Michael and John's, Dublin, said the deportation of these Volunteers was a challenge thrown down to Ireland. The Cabinet of England were, perhaps, that night or some other night, discussing the possibility of the successful enforcement of conscription in Ireland, no matter what the consequences were. It behoved every man at this issue to be prepared to make every sacrifice for Ireland, the supreme, if necessary. (Applause.)

Mr. Peter Macken, Vice-President, Trades Council, appealed to all the young men present who had not already joined the Volunteers to do so. Those who were unarmed and helpless, outside the ranks of the Volunteers, were the men to be pitied in Ireland at the present time. (Applause.)

The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously, amid applause.

At the overflow meeting in the Supper Room, Mr. Walter Cole presided, and in addition to the previous speakers the O'Rahilly also addressed the meeting, dwelling on the importance of unity and discipline in the present crisis.

IRISH FINANCIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE'S REPLY TO MR. REDMOND.

Mansion House, Dawson Street,
Dublin, 1st April, 1916.

To Mr. John E. Redmond, M.P.

Sir,—The Irish Financial Relations Committee very deeply regrets that, occupying the responsible position of Chairman of the Irish Party, you should have suggested in your letter to Mr. Governey that a question in which the whole future prosperity of Ireland is involved should be considered or dealt with otherwise than on its merits.

In view of the inevitable grave results to Irish prosperity from increased taxation we are convinced that the position of the Irish Party is not strengthened and cannot possibly be strengthened by an effort to repress freedom of action on the part of the public by means of allegations as to the personnel or motives of this Committee. We would point out that no such attitude was taken up by you in the case of the agitation which last year resulted in the abandonment of the liquor taxes proposed by Mr. Lloyd George.

The Committee was appointed by a public meeting of Dublin citizens in the Mansion House, with the immediate object of conducting a vigorous campaign for the exemption of Ireland from war-taxation. In that work we welcome the co-operation of all who are willing to co-operate without inquiry as to their political opinions on other questions.

We are glad to recognise that you correctly interpret the feelings of the country on the following points:—(1) that war-taxation should not "differentiate unfairly against Ireland"; (2) that continuous exertions are needed "to protect Ireland against unjust burdens"; and (3) that "the question of the future permanent financial settlement between Great Britain and Ireland . . . is one of supreme importance."

We are, however, compelled to join issue with you as to the advisability of agitating this question **now**. We are strongly of opinion that the question is the most vital and urgent one with which the country is faced at present, and that any failure on our part to take the most effective action within our power in such a crisis would be both culpable and imprudent. We cannot agree with your statement that the claim for the exemption from war-taxation is "ridiculous," or that any war-taxation for Ireland can be "really necessary."

The extra taxation imposed on Ireland last year, though enormous in proportion to Ireland's resources, was barely sufficient to pay for the cost of two days of warfare. It cannot, therefore, be described as "really necessary" for the conduct of the war,—the only object this crushing taxation can achieve is the ruin of Ireland. We affirm that there is nothing ridiculous in claiming for Ireland complete exemption from these taxes, and in claiming it now. The following are some of the grounds on which we base this claim:—

(1.) Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa enjoy, as a matter of course, complete exemption from war-taxation. Any contribution these self-governing communities may choose to make towards war expenditure are "the free gifts of a free people."

(2.) Ireland has contributed to Imperial expenditure, between 1809 and 1911, a sum of over £329,000,000, and has, therefore, an immediate claim to relief from further contributions.

(3.) Ireland, during the same century, was continuously taxed at a rate far in excess of the highest estimate of her "fair proportion."

(4.) Imperial expenditure and Irish impoverishment have now reached the point (anticipated by Mr. Sexton in the Financial Report of 1896) where no possible "proportion" can be equitable, and where a definite limit must be placed to Ireland's taxation, without reference to the amount of British taxation. Mr. Sexton pointed out in 1896 (Financial Relations Report, p. 61) that: "Having regard to the slender means of Ireland, and the liability of the United Kingdom to great increases of its already vast expenditure, no system of proportionate taxation will exempt the means of subsistence in Ireland, unless it be governed by a provision to limit Irish taxation to a specified annual sum." The position thus foreseen twenty years ago has now been reached; and accordingly, as Mr. Sexton points out in his published letter of March 21st, no fiscal arrangement with Great Britain can be even approximately equitable which does not provide that "the yearly levy on Ireland should not exceed a certain sum." Pending the final radical settlement of the Irish Fiscal question we suggest that the yearly levy on Ireland should not exceed the pre-war figure, and that none of the excessive increases due to the war should be imposed on Ireland. These increases encroach dangerously on the margin of subsistence in Ireland (though not in Great Britain) and, accordingly, answer your definition of taxes which ought to be opposed—namely, those which "differentiate unfairly against Ireland."

Signed on behalf of the Committee,
B. J. Goff, M.A.,
J. E. Lyons,
Hon. Secretaries.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 71 (New Series). SATURDAY, APRIL 15th, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

The following, says the "Daily Independent," are the figures of Ireland's taxation:—

1913–14	...	... £11,134,500
1914–15	...	... 12,389,500
1915–16 (approximate)		... 18,185,420
1916–17 (estimated)		... 26,722,000

That is all right. We are safe in the hands of the Irish Party. They have watched over the increase and will go on watching over the future increase. Let nobody attempt to stab them in the part turned towards Ireland.

* * *

The Irish Party has accepted the Budget resolutions imposing the last increase. Sir Thomas Esmonde spoke on behalf of the Party. What he said I don't know till I meet somebody who has seen a "Freeman's Journal." The "Daily Independent" did not report the converted Sinn Feiner, but that was to be expected from a Pro-German organ of Bogus Agitation. I looked up the Pro-Russian "Irish Times." "Sir Thomas Esmonde," it said, "also spoke." That was all. The record of the Irish Party in regard to an estimated annual taxation of Twenty-six or Twenty-seven Millions from Ireland may be summed up in the words "Also ran."

* * *

Mr. Redmond, under Government auspices, has supplied the American Press with another interview. If the interview was not pleasing to the Government, it would not reach America. If I sent my views, the Government would interfere. But for the first time Mr. Redmond is forced to admit that the Irish in America are not with him. "My message to the Irish in America," says His Imperial Majesty, "is that they should extend to Ireland what Ireland has ever demanded from England—Home Rule, leaving Ireland to decide the questions of to-day as she sees fit and for herself." Why does not Mr. Redmond set the example? He has just interfered publicly to prevent Ireland deciding as she sees fit, and has plainly told his supporters that he is their conscience and the master of their rights to decide, and that they must decide as he sees fit—which means as the Government sees fit. Still I do not quarrel with the latest definition of Home Rule. It is not Home Rule on the Statute Book. The Home Rule Act expressly forbids Home Rule according to Mr. Redmond's definition, and if the Irish in America were to propose to place any such restrictions on Irish autonomy as that Act proposes, all Ireland would protest much more vigorously than Mr. Redmond is now protesting against the men who sent him and the Irish Party 750,000 dollars. "Ireland," says Mr. Redmond, "is now a self-governing portion of the British Empire, with all her interests bound up in the future of that Empire." If Ireland is now self-governing, then Ireland is now of her own free will imposing £27,000,000 of annual taxation on herself. Ireland also, in that case, has entrusted the liberty of Irishmen to the private counsels of ex-Inspector Major Price and ex-General Harrell. Ireland directs the operations of "Ireland's Army" in a manner which, as Mr. Redmond has said in the Imperial Parliament, gives Mr. Redmond a nightmare. "In the future of **that** Empire," the Irish in America are told, "all her interests are bound up." Let us hope that care has been previously used to apply an antiseptic dressing. There is danger of gangrene in the bandage material. The "message" to the Irish in America is equal to saying: "Good-bye, I have no more use for you. Busy atoning for past disloyalty and piling up a debt of gratitude. Goodbye!"

* * *

Mr. William O'Brien and Mr. T. M. Healy raised a sort of protest against the overtaxation of Ireland. Mr. O'Brien came near to making the main point clear, as it has been made clear by Mr. Thomas Sexton. The main point is that there is now no question of **relative** taxable capacity. The **absolute** taxable capacity of Ireland has been exceeded and far exceeded. But with this point in view, Mr. O'Brien only weakened his case by raising a variety of other points that are insignificant in comparison. He ended his statement with the extraordinarily ineffective prediction that "the All-for-Ireland Party would have to consider very carefully whether it would not be their duty to restate the claims of Ireland again and again." If that is all, Mr. McKenna will not resign. At the Bangor Poor Law Board long ago, a Guardian complained to the Chairman that a brother Guardian had called him a swindler. "I reiterate it," said the other." "Oh, very well, sir," said the offended one, "if he reiterates it, I'm satisfied to forget all about it." Mr. Healy reiterated Mr. O'Brien. Mr. Chancellor McKenna said his honour was satisfied. "Ireland," he said, "had no special claim for exemption from taxation, which did not hit Ireland more hardly than any other **part of the country.** In the second place, Ireland was whole-heartedly in sympathy with the cause which the United Kingdom and her Allies represented." That'll larn her! So, according to the Government, the extra taxes on Ireland are imposed on the luxury of the Sharp Curve. **"If there are grievances,"** said Mr. McKenna, "this is not the time to investigate them." Quite so. We are now looking after Belgium and Serbia. "If there are grievances"—Mr. McKenna soon recovered from this slip of the tongue and gave Mr. O'Brien a slap in the face: "If he were to deal with the matter now, he would say that, having regard to the prosperity of Ireland, **no case had been or could be made out."** After that, let Mr. Redmond and Mr. Dillon think twice before they attempt to make out a case. A more insolent defiance could hardly be imagined. Mr. Chancellor McKenna knows well that what he calls "the prosperity of Ireland," meaning the temporary rise in agricultural prices, will collapse altogether in a very short time, and that the taxation will not collapse.

* * *

It is nothing short of silliness, from the Irish standpoint, to base any argument at present on the **relative** taxable capacity of Ireland. There is such a thing as absolute taxable capacity, and there is an unfailing test for it. When the drain of wealth from a country is such that the population is decreasing, then that country has reached the limit of its taxable capacity, and any further increase of taxes must necessarily diminish the population and the prosperity of the country. Ireland has been submerged below the taxable limit for three quarters of a century before the war. Depopulation at an increased rate and general impoverishment are the certain consequences of the present taxation. What advantages can Ireland hope to gain to compensate her certain loss? Perhaps the "Irish Times" could tell us.

* * *

The only motive that Messrs. Redmond and Dillon can see in demanding immunity from ruinous taxation is a desire to break up the Irish Party. Accordingly, every possible wire is being pulled to prevent people saying what they think, or to make them unsay what they have said. This all arises from a morbid sense of the unsound position of the Irish Party. So far as I am aware, except the typical unconverted Unionist, nobody in Ireland is particularly anxious to see the country littered with the remains of the Irish Party. For my part I am willing to subscribe to buy as much twine as will hold the Party together until the Liberals have the opportunity, which they are no doubt dying for, to redeem their pledges.

* * *

The great champion of liberty and so on for all countries in which the suppression of liberty is not an imperial necessity has pounced a second time on Ernest Blythe and Liam Mellows and carried them off to England. As a provincial paper points out, when sending them to jail proved a failure, some place worse than jail had to be chosen for their punishment. This is a particularly brutal and wanton outrage on Irish liberty. While Mr. Redmond is encouraging this sort of thing in order to pile up the debt of gratitude, there is another debt also piling up, and the account of it is being kept. Questioned as to the reason for depriving Blythe and Mellows of their liberty without trial, Mr. Birrell alleged "sedition and prejudicing recruitment." But these crimes have already been brought to trial, and tribunals have been got to convict against the weight of evidence. We may, therefore, conclude that the pious and conscientious Castle has resolved to turn over a new leaf and to give up prostituting its witnesses and its tribunals. That is a distinct gain for public decency. For a while, too, the pretence was kept up that the Castle was not governing Ireland under martial law. Now that pretence also is abandoned, and another victory for the truth has been wrested from the hypocrites. On a former occasion, Mr. Devlin, M.P., demanded that these very men, Blythe and Mellows, should be brought to trial for some stated charge. The Irish Party passed some resolution about it that never was published. We can see how much importance the Government attaches to Mr. Devlin and the Irish Party, and who are the people really engaged in bringing the Irish Party into contempt.

* * *

"Spreading Disaffection."—At Sixmilebridge, Co. Clare, Michael Brennan, Captain of Irish Volunteers, has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour for "endeavouring to spread disaffection among His Majesty's subjects." The evidence showed that his endeavour to spread disaffection consisted in telling the Irish Volunteers, what I have repeatedly told them, to resist any attempt at disarming them. The Government evidently does not believe that armed Irishmen, not under its own control, are capable of any affection towards it.

"Spreading Affection."—At a Government recruiting meeting at Gurteen, Co. Sligo, the sight of some men in the crowd wearing the Irish tricolour—green, white and orange, drew the oratorical fire of a recruiting officer. He called the men "swine," "idiots," and "cross-bred bastards." He said **"men were not asked to fight for England but for Ireland,** and whoever were preventing the Germans from coming here, it was not the Sinn Feiners. It was the duty of Irishmen to fight for **their dirty little mud-heaps of houses and their dirty little shops."** I hope this is up to the standard of Mr. Birrell's new Imperialist patriotism, which is to take the place of our local prejudices. A century of Predominant Partnership has left us these glories to fight for. A few years of Imperialist taxation will replace the dirty little mudheaps of houses and the dirty little shops of Gurteen and such places by nice picturesque wallsteads. In the meantime, observe the candid description of Chancellor McKenna's Irish prosperity in the neighbourhood of Ballaghadereen.

* * *

The "Irish Times," in a leading article on Mr. Asquith, makes little or rather nothing of the appeals continually addressed to us on the subject of Ireland's war and our duty towards other small nationalities. The editor disdains the pretence that the war was caused by or is being fought about anything that happened or is alleged to have happened since the war began. It dates Mr. Asquith's preparations for the war back to 1909, five years before the war. "Two years later," it goes on, that is, in 1911, three years before the war began, "it must have become plain to him (unless—which is incredible—he was kept in the dark by his colleagues) that a war between Germany and France could not be long delayed, that, **in view of our general policy and our specific commitments,** we should probably be obliged to take part in it, and that our part would include the despatch of a considerable force abroad." It is hardly likely, indeed, that Mr. Asquith was kept in the dark, but if the "Irish Times" wishes to know what amount of keeping colleagues in the dark was indulged in, it might endeavour to draw knowledge from such members of the former Ministry as Mr. John Burns. Mr. Redmond was also adroitly handled, and, as I pointed out last week, his statesmanship never became aware of the German menace to Ireland until he received his orders from the Government just at the outbreak of the war. "We cannot deny," says the editor, "the adroitness with which he (Mr. Asquith) managed to give to everyone in turn (of the groups on which the existence of the Government depended) **the necessary sop** to retain its allegiance, yet never let any of them feel that, having obtained its immediate object, it was now free to turn and bite its benefactor." Here is disclosed the true estimate in which typical well-informed Unionist circles hold the value of Mr. Redmond's services. A Colonial Premier can drive the hardest bargain for his country both in the form of present advantages and of arrangements to follow the war, but Mr. Redmond is afraid of the consequences if he should allow himself or anybody else under his august command to face honestly the question of the ruinous effects of present taxation on Ireland. Ireland must pay "her fair share" towards the expenses of "policy and commitments" years older than the Home Rule Bill, and towards the lavish loans of millions by the aid of which the self-governing dominions "present a united front," and Mr. Redmond refuses to consider whether economic ruin and depopulation on a grand scale can be properly included under the Free Gifts of a Free People. His sole

anxiety in his sole utterance on the subject is for the Irish Party. Special messages and messengers are flying around to choke off honest expression of opinion. Mr. Redmond is himself destroying and demoralising his party, and he might have learned by now, if he is capable of learning, that his manufactured votes of acquiescence in ruinous taxation will profit him and the Party no more than the futile votes of confidence hitherto supplied to order. It all goes back to Mr. Asquith's adroit management, and the preparations since 1909.

* * *

So the Right Honourable Mr. Justice Boyd has retired from the Bench. He was very vigorous when last heard from, and the newspapers do not say that he is broken down in health. I recommended him for a peerage with the title of Lord Boyd of Crossmaglen, but the Government has been content to reward his faithful services with a baronetcy. That is the worst of being only a bitter Whig. If he had been a renegade Home Ruler like Lord O'Brien he would have been a lord too. Sir Walter Boyd, Bart., will now have leisure to write his memoirs, being no longer engaged in reproving perjury and fabrication and unconscionable juries. A full and true account from him of the Crossmaglen Conspiracy, as a chapter in the history of Liberal Government in Ireland, would sell like hot cakes. What has appeared in THE IRISH VOLUNTEER is not nearly so interesting as what has still to be disclosed. But why did Sir Walter retire?

EOIN MAC NEILL.

WHERE AND WHEN TO DRILL IN DUBLIN.

Recruits may enrol in the **Dublin Brigade** at any of the undermentioned drill centres:—

Companies. BATT. I.

A. Monday, 8 p.m., Colmcille Hall, 5 Blackhall Street.
B. Monday, 8 p.m., 41 Parnell Square.
C. Thursday, 8 p.m., 41 Parnell Square.
D. Friday, 8 p.m., Colmcille Hall, 5 Blackhall Street.
F. Thursday, 8 p.m., 25 Parnell Square.
G. Wednesday, 8 p.m., Colmcille Hall, 5 Blackhall Street.

BATT. II.

B. Tuesday, 8 p.m., Father Mathew Park, Fairview.
C. Wednesday, 8 p.m., 25 Parnell Square.
D. Sunday morning, 11 a.m., Father Mathew Park, Fairview.
E. Wednesday, 8 p.m., Father Mathew Park, Fairview.
F. Thursday, 8 p.m., Father Mathew Park, Fairview.
G. Tuesday, 8 p.m., Lamh Dearg Hall, Glasnevin, at Botanic Avenue.

BATT. III.

A. Monday, 8 p.m., Camden Row and 41 York Street.
B. Tuesday, 8 p.m., No. 144 Gt. Brunswick St.
C. Thursday, 8 p.m., Camden Row and 41 York Street.
D. Thursday, 8 p.m., Thorncastle Street, Ringsend.
E. Monday, 8 p.m., Cullenswood House, Oakley Road.
F. Wednesday, 8 p.m., Dalkey and Dunleary, 71 Patrick Street, Kingstown.

BATT. IV.

A. Monday, 8 p.m., Larkfield, Kimmage.
B. Tuesday, 8 p.m., Larkfield, Kimmage.
C. Thursday, 8 p.m., Larkfield, Kimmage.
D. Friday, 8 p.m., Larkfield, Kimmage.
E. Monday, 8 p.m., Rathfarnham.
F. Monday and Thursday, 8 p.m., Emmet Hall, Inchicore.
G. Tallaght and Clondalkin, Monday and Thursday.

Sympathisers with the movement who cannot join a Company may enrol themselves in the **Irish Volunteer Auxiliary.**

Forms of application for membership can be procured from **The Irish Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street.**

There are the following **Special** additional **Drills** for **Recruits:**—

Saturday afternoon, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Father Mathew Park, Fairview; Camden Road, and Larkfield, Kimmage Road.

Sunday mornings, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., same centres.

THE DUBLIN BRIGADE.

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 16th, 1916.

1. First Aid and Signalling Classes as usual.
2. Usual Lecture for Officers on Tuesday and Saturday, at 8 p.m.
3. The Engineers of 3rd and 4th Battalions will parade at Kimmage on Saturday, 15th inst., at 3.30 p.m.

M. W. O'REILLY, Deputy Adjt.

ARMS BALLOT.

Cumann na mBan Executive are holding a Drawing for Arms on Wednesday, April 19th. Eoin Mac Neill has kindly consented to draw the winning numbers.

Entry is £1, and the Drawing is open to all Volunteer Companies. Also to Cumann na mBan Branches on the understanding that the arms are given to the local Volunteers.

First Prize consists of 20 Guns; second and subsequent prizes of 10 Guns each up to the full

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comaírle Ġnóta Féinne Fáil ina nDúnport tráthnóna D. Céadaoin, an 5ad lá de'n mí seo, agus an Ceann Cata Pádraic Mac Piarais agus ina diaid sin an tOide Eoin Mac Néill, Uachtarán, ina gceannus.

Do rocruiġead a lán neithe do bain le himtheachtaib na dTimthirí agus le cúrsáib Armála agus Airgid.

Do hainmuiġead roinnt oifigeach.

Dúnport na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 5 Aib., 1916.

AINMNIGHTE.

SLUAGH CORCAIGHE—AN CÉAD CATH.

An Captaen Seán Ó Murchadha chum beith ina Leas-Ceann Catha.

An Leas Captaen Seán Ó Nuallain, de Chomplacht A, chum beith ina Captaen agus ina Chongantóir do'n Ceann Catha.

An Leas-Captaen C. Ó Gormáin, de Chomplacht D, chum beith ina Captaen ar an gChomplacht sin.

An tOglách Seán Mac Eoinín chum beith ina Captaen.

An Ceann Roinne Roibeard Langford chum beith ina Leas-Captaen Íochtair ar Chomplacht C.

Mise,
PÁDRAIC MAC PIARAIS,
Ceann Catha,
Riaraidhe an Oirdhuighte.

Dúnport na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 5 Aib., 1916.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, 5th inst., Commandant P. H. Pearse and subsequently Professor Eoin Mac Neill, President, in the chair.

Various arrangements were made with regard to the movements of Organisers, to Equipment, and to Finance.

Certain appointments of officers were sanctioned.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 5th Apr., 1916.

EASTER MANŒUVRES, 1916.

General Orders.

1. In connection with the Easter Manœuvres ordered in General Orders of 3rd April, 1916, one-day or two-day bivouacs may, at the discretion of Brigade or Battalion Commandants, be arranged in suitable localities.
2. In cases where it is not possible to arrange for field operations, route marches or concentration of neighbouring units will be held.
3. While the point of mobilisation may or may not be announced to the Companies beforehand, in accordance with local conditions, an effort will be made to send the mobilisation order to every individual Volunteer, so as to test each Company's ability to get into immediate touch with all its members.

P. H. PEARSE, Commandant,
Director of Organisation.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 8th Apr., 1916.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS.

THE EASTER MANŒUVRES.

It is hoped that Commandants and Company Commanders everywhere are making suitable arrangements for the Easter Manœuvres. The word manœuvres is perhaps too ambitious a description of the kind of operations which Headquarters has in view. The exercise is really intended as a test of our power to get our men together in full numbers and with full equipment. In the better organised Brigade Districts, such as Dublin, Galway, Limerick, Kerry, Cork, and Wexford, a field operation of some little magnitude should follow; and in some of these cases bivouacs to extend over one of the nights of the Easter Holidays are being arranged for. Elsewhere a route march or a concentration of two or three local corps will perhaps be sufficient. The Brigade Commandants in every well-organised area, and in the less well-organised areas the Battalion Commandants or Company Commanders should think out a useful scheme for the local command.

EQUIPMENT.

Company Commanders should get their men into the habit of turning out with full equipment on all occasions of public parade. Full equipment means not only full arms and ammunition but bandolier or pouch, haversack, water-bottle, mess-tin, knapsack, overcoat, and all the paraphernalia mentioned in the Leaflet on the Field Service Kit issued by Headquarters. It is important that our men should accustom themselves to marching with all their baggage, and that they should make themselves adepts in the art of disposing their baggage about their persons with the maximum of speed, comfort, and convenience. Similarly, the Company Equipment should be always on the spot, and though not necessarily to be carried on every parade, at least always available when required.

ARMOURING.

One of last week's notes deserves to be repeated and emphasised. It is that all rifles, revolvers, and automatics in the possession of Volunteers should be **tested,** and any defects observed in them remedied. It should also be made certain that the bayonets fit the rifles in every case. Many guns have some slight defect which the Company Armourer can easily make good. Another point to be seen to is that every man has cleaning apparatus for his gun.

THE UPWARD WAVE.

The cause of the Irish Volunteers is now sweeping up on a wave of public sympathy similar to that which followed Howth and Bachelor's Walk. In Dublin many hundreds of recruits have joined the ranks within the past ten days. Now is the time for every officer and every man to put whatever manhood, whatever power of hard and concentrated work is in him, into the task of completing our organisation, training, and equipment. The country expects great things of us, and the way to answer the call of the country is to set our teeth and **work.**

Cumann na mBan

We hope that everyone will remember to support our concert for the Defence of Ireland Fund on the 16th, at 41 Parnell Square. It will begin at 8, and it is expected to be one of the best concerts of the whole season. We hope the object of the concert will appeal to all, even those who would prefer to hear no more music for the present. Tickets can be had at 2 Dawson Street from Miss Maeve Ryan, or can be had at the door on the night of the concert.

The Branch at Fairview wishes to announce that they now meet at the Fr. Mathew Park, at 8.30 on Monday and Friday.

We would suggest that Branches in remote districts should act as distributing agents for national literature, Cumann na mBan tracts, Tracts for the Times, etc. They could order supplies of them and sell them throughout their district.

Several new Branches have affiliated since our last issue: Ballyroe (near Tralee), Donoughmore (in Cork), Newbridge (Co. Derry), Chapelizod; and Enniscorthy and Killarney have restarted.

Any Branches that have started and have not yet written to Headquarters ought to communicate at once with us, as we have much valuable information to give.

We hope Branches all over the country are trying to collect money for the Defence of Ireland Fund. They should get up entertainments wherever possible, as the public is always willing

How a French Section said "Merde!"

There is a tradition that when the Anglo-Prussian cavalry at Waterloo called on Gen. Cambronne's rallying-squares of the Old Guard to surrender, the General replied "The Guard dies; it does not surrender." Now this was quite true, but it was not what the General said. In the French Army they know that what he actually did say was "Merde!" This is a hard-chaw expression of derision, and is the one ever since used in the French Army by any detachment that means to fight to a finish. In the recent fighting around Verdun there occurred the latest example.

Two machine-guns commanding a ravine up which the Germans were about to advance got jammed, and there was no possibility of getting more immediately: it was necessary to gain a little time. A lieutenant called for fifteen riflemen to gain the time with, and led them to the gap where the machine-guns had been. All but one were to lie down in readiness, one to keep firing into the attacking enemy as fast as he could. The others were to succeed him one at a time.

The first soldier had only fired three shots when he was killed, and the second only managed five. The third had better luck and managed to empty his magazine twice. The others continued with varying fortune. By the time fresh machine-guns were got into position there were only three men still alive. But in the result an attack was beaten off—at a loss of two machine-

MR. ASQUITH AT THE VATICAN.

THE QUESTION OF IRELAND.

"Rome, 3rd April.

"According to information from a most reliable source, in the audience which the Pope accorded to Mr. Asquith, the English Prime Minister drew the Pope's attention to the rôle which the Catholic Bishops of Ireland could fulfil in an opportune manner, by intervening with the people to bring about a union, so desirable at present, with the other parts of the British Empire.

"Mr. Asquith assured the Pope, among other things, that after the War the Home Rule question would be settled in an equitable manner."

—From "La Croix" (Paris).

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

HOW TO CONQUER.

We have mentioned in former days Von Kanonenfutter's remarkable and voluminous work on strategy as being one which the ambitious young Volunteer would be tempted to read and which he would be well advised to disregard. There is another book—or rather class of books—which would also probably appeal to him, and which, if he realise certain conditions, might be of real value to him. I refer to the life of Napoleon.

* * *

If you read fifty small Lives of this extraordinary man you will probably be no nearer to the liberation of your country than you are now. If, on the other hand, you read two or three chapters in a large Life you will find yourself, if not actually on the road to efficiency, at least beginning to be capable of understanding what efficiency is. For if you confine yourself to the small Lives you will merely dazzle yourself by the revelation of great projects grandly conceived and triumphantly carried through by an apparently magic intellect, whereas if you read a few chosen extracts from a larger Life you will see that intellect at work, and will realise that there is no magic there but just sheer labour and energy.

* * *

When the average Volunteer Captain sets out on a task he hands over certain details to his lieutenants, certain others to his Section Commanders, says "I am sure I can rely on you," and having thus washed his hands of the affair, watches as from an eminence the efforts of his subordinates to carry out his strategy. The said Captain has perhaps seventy men to his command. He has read of Napoleon and his Marshals or Hindenburg and his groups, and he considers this delegation of duties only fitting in one of his exalted rank. Has he not six subordinate officers to do his bidding and attend to tiresome details? Pause, mighty one, and deny it not, but from Napoleon learn a lesson.

* * *

Napoleon did not conquer Europe by flashes of genius on the battlefield, nor lose it by lack of them. The peace of Tilsit was not gained by the sudden inspiration that won the battle of Friedland, nor was it the unfortunate blunders and ill-luck on the field of Waterloo that cost him his Empire. Both campaigns were won and lost before they were fought. It was his rigid and minute attention to details that would bore a Volunteer squad leader that made Napoleon what he was.

* * *

In his campaign in Poland in 1806–7 he wrote letters almost every day dealing with the supply of boots, the construction of bakeries, and the best means of forwarding bread to his armies. [Transport and supply was not then what it is now.] He had detailed arrangements for commandeering all the supplies of the country he was campaigning in, with careful provision that it should not be so demanded as to become useless or dangerous. Boots were his special care, for, if the old maxim told him that an army marches on its belly, he sensibly replied that it also marched on its feet. Here is a sample of one of his orders: "Every detachment coming from Paris or Boulogne will start, each man with a pair of shoes besides two pairs in his knapsack. At Mayence they will receive another pair to replace that worn on the march. At Magdeburg they will receive another pair to replace that worn on the march from Mayence to Magdeburg, so that every man may reach his corps with a pair of shoes on his feet and a pair in his knapsack."

* * *

It may safely be said, especially after reading a full account of this terrible campaign, that not Napoleon's tactical genius nor the enthusiasm and valour of the French soldiers, but the boots of Magdeburg won the victories of Eylau and Friedland. Therefore, Captains, details, please. Attend to them all yourselves. The Section Commanders have been flattered a good deal in these columns, but it is you that will have to keep them up to the mark. Napoleon personally cashiered a sub-lieutenant for allowing thirty-two of the forty-seven horses he was in charge of to get sore backs. So when one of your men lets his rifle get rusty don't tell off a lieutenant to detail a Section Commander to order a squad leader to give him the butt end. Deal with him yourself. Also read some more about Napoleon.

DUBLIN'S REPLY TO DEPORTATION ORDERS

THRONGS OF RECRUITS TO IRISH VOLUNTEERS IN DUBLIN.

At a public meeting held on Friday, 31st March, to protest against the deportation of the Irish Volunteer Organisers, an unpremeditated appeal was made for recruits for the Dublin Brigade. Hundreds of young men fell in and enrolled as Volunteers. The Brigade Commandant at once ordered recruiting meetings to be held on five evenings of the ensuing week. The first, on Monday, at Beresford Place, was for the whole Brigade. The notice was short, the night bad; nevertheless a splendid meeting was held and a hundred recruits enrolled. On Tuesday two meetings were held in the area of the First Battalion, at Blessington Street and Blackhall Street; on Wednesday, two, at Ringsend and Donnybrook, for the Third Battalion; on Thursday two, at James's Street and Dolphin's Barn, for the Fourth Battalion; and on Friday two, at Annesley Place and Drumcondra, for the Second Battalion. Finally, on Sunday, the Brigade made a short parade through the city with all the recruits that could be reached by message late in the week. The meetings were all enthusiastic, passionate, nationalist in the great sense. Dublin is entirely with the Irish Volunteers. One single factionist asked a question and got his answer; one soldier tried opposition and was thrown out; one separation-allowance virago served as an object-lesson. The citizens of Dublin are solid on the right side now: the young manhood of Dublin has come into the Irish Volunteers and will stay. No one who attended the meetings could fail to see that the calumnies and the catch-cries and the cant have lost their power. No one who looked down at the crowds—at the crowd, for instance, in James's Street on Thursday—could miss feeling the emotion of the great occasion that vibrated that mighty concourse. No one who saw the marches from meeting to meeting could fail to share the triumphal mood that rose from the deep passion of the Capital. On Sunday the last word of Dublin's reply to Dublin Castle was given. The men who paraded in College Green on St. Patrick's Day marched again, with full arms and equipment, trained soldiers rades, hundred after hundred, almost equalling them in numbers; and, behind again, hundreds more who had missed enrolment during the week but came now to offer themselves.

Rev. Father O'Flanagan, C.C., Ringsend, presided at the Third Battalion meeting; Mr. J. E. Lyons at the First; Mr. Stafford ,P.L.G., at the Second; and Lieutenant W. T. Cosgrave, T.C., at the Fourth, which heard, in addition to officers of the Brigade who spoke at several meetings, Rev. Father Eugene Nevin, C.P., of Mount Argus.

Perhaps the most encouraging of all the good facts of the week is the rejoining of such numbers of National Volunteers. They have met a hearty welcome and found all the old fellowship waiting for them.

It may be worth while setting down a few of the points put to the audiences:—

The Irish Volunteers have already done two great services to Ireland. They have prevented conscription and they have put an end to the old system of ruling Ireland by holding her in subjection by the block-house system of R.I.C. barracks and the baton charges of the D.M.P. The Irish Volunteers are now far superior in numbers, training and arms to all the police forces: the men of Dublin will never again run from baton charges. The Crown Prosecutor, at a trial of Irish Volunteer Organisers, said that they should be sent to England, "where they would be treated as they deserved." Stephen Collins, in London, and Dan McCarthy, in Liverpool, have been treated as they deserved for being Irishmen, having both been murdered by mobs. If the Government move their forces against the Irish Volunteers, the men of Dublin, who are not trained and armed, will be running to help the Volunteers with their bare fists; if they come in time they will be equipped and trained to serve their country like men. Every Irishman has at some time wished that he had the opportunity given to the heroes of the Nation: every Irish Nationalist knows that the Irish Volunteers are the hereditary descendants of the men who manned the Bearna Baoghail in all the ages. It is a privilege to live and die in the same service.

FOR NEW COMPANIES.

LETTER IV.

FIELD TRAINING.

A Chara,

Now before your men will be fit for even the most elementary manœuvre they must have a thorough training in extension on the lines laid down in my last letter, and, in addition, must be adept at taking cover and advancing silently and invisibly. Explain to them in what cover consists. You can summarise thus:—Cover, to be effective, must (1) afford a good view of the ground in front; (2) permit free use of the rifle; (3) give concealment from enemy's view; and (4) give protection from enemy's fire. When possible a background harmonising in colour with the uniform should be chosen; when this is done very little concealment is necessary. Isolated trees or rocks or very conspicuous places should be avoided, as the enemy has probably taken their range and may even have men told off specially to watch them. A man under cover should fire round and not over his cover.

Speaking of cover reminds us of the special training that should be given to men who show aptitude for scouting work. The duties of scouts should be clearly understood. They are the eyes and ears of the force, and as such should **avoid fighting,** and only in exceptional cases should they even draw the fire of the enemy. Their business is to get information and get back with it. Information collected is no use unless it is delivered. If, in advancing, enemy scouts are seen advancing, like Brer Rabbit "lay low and say nuffin'"; let the enemy scout pass on—he'll probably fall into the hands of the main body. But if, on the other hand, you find an enemy scout working his way back—he probably has information and so must be stopped. Do it as quietly as you can, preferably with the bayonet. Scouts don't take prisoners; that's not what they are for! Somebody has said that scouts require courage, cunning and commonsense. They must see without being seen, hear without being heard, advance and retire under cover, read tracks, and have very accurate observation. If you succeed in training half a dozen men in this particular branch, your whole Company will give a good account of itself when the time comes.

Görgei and the Hungarian Army.

VI.—GORGEI'S REPLY TO KOSSUTH.

"Kossuth was one day suddenly overtaken with anxiety lest the enemy should concentrate his forces, which were considerably superior to ours, upon a point beyond the Leitha—if not unobserved, yet unhindered by us—and then at once somewhere break into the country, without our being able to stop him. Associated with this anxiety was also the apprehension of the possible extinction of the sympathies of the people for our cause, notwithstanding our occupation of the frontier.

"Both fears caused Kossuth urgently to request that I would not always stand so inactive on the frontiers, but rather open a regular war of partisans against Austria; surprise the enemy with the rapidity of lightning, at one time here, and immediately afterwards in another place, then in a third, and so on—God knows where else—and thereby prevent him from concentrating his forces on a fixed point, or at least induce him to think they were every moment necessary somewhere else, and even to attempt to realise it: thus he would fatigue and dispirit his troops and render them unfit for the execution of the offensive dreaded by Kossuth.

"In such a warfare Kossuth saw at the same time a rich source of warlike heroic adventures, which, duly diffused by the daily press, would serve to counteract the apprehended extinction of the sympathies of the people for our struggle. These requirements of the President caused me to answer him verbatim as follows:—

"'The order of the enemy to his army, which you have communicated to me, informs me that it is in fact no longer in my power to prevent his concentration; because it has already been effected beyond the Leitha, and he can advance across our frontier almost in parade-march.

"Do not take this remark for pusillanimity. If there be one who does not despair of the cause of our country, I am the man! But let us not deceive ourselves in relation to the greatness of the danger, of which I recognise the factors more in the feeble patriotism of our countrymen than in the numerical superiority of the enemy. The comitates of Presburg, Neutra, Trencsin, Wieselbudg and Dedenburg are so many hothouses, if not of open antipathy against us, at least of the most pitiable inaction.

"'The so-called guerilla warfare would certainly find in me its most zealous champion. In our present condition, however, such a war is impossible. Impossible, because the rural population does not stand by us, but shuts its doors against its starving countrymen. Impossible is such a war, because our infantry are almost bare-footed, and our cavalry, on their enfeebled horses, are scarcely able any longer to stagger after the infantry; and then the teams of the artillery! Impossible is a war of that kind, because scarcely a battalion can march even the distance of one station without dragging after

essential requisite for the so-named guerilla divisions is facility of motion. For so-called surprises, which are made only at short distances, the enemy is too far off. . . .

"'With my small army I must by no means engage in any war on the frontier; for this would be to abandon it in detail, and with it at the same time our country. This is my conviction. I am very sorry, honoured President, that this conviction of mine is diametrically opposed to what you anticipate from the guerilla war. With what hearty good-will would I accede to the carrying out of all your projects, were it in any way possible under the existing local circumstances.

"'The defile of Nádas is said to be a pass which might be rendered impracticable with little labour. For the last six days, under the protection of a strong brigade, considerable forces have been working at it; and the whole result obtained is, that if this point be left by us to-day, the enemy will restore the road in two days' time. And soon this point must be quitted, because the men cannot endure the fatigue much longer. One-third of the brigade is unfit for service from want of footgear; 500 men are already ill. Half of those who can do duty are constantly at the outposts, day and night, under the open sky, and not even the Honvéd soldiers have cloth garments.'"

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

IRISH HISTORY LECTURES.
Gaelic League Hall—25 Parnell Square.
"IRISH SCHOOLS." By CU ULADH.
ADMISSION—THREEPENCE.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 72 (New Series). SATURDAY, APRIL 22nd, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

There is an Irish-American journal that supports Mr. Redmond's compulsory policy, the "Chicago Citizen." For months past no newspaper from America was allowed to reach me by post. But the "Chicago Citizen" of March 25 reached me on April 14. It contains an article beginning as follows: "Is German money being used to foment an armed insurrection in Ireland? Is the German-Irish alliance preparing to set Erin ablaze for the purpose of creating a diversion in favour of Germany? Is there a plot afoot to deluge the Green Isle in blood in order to discredit Mr. Redmond and his colleagues? Information in possession of the writer warrants affirmative answers to these three questions. From sources in which he places entire reliance the writer has learned that the beginning of the coming summer has been fixed upon as the time for an insurrection in Ireland."

* * *

The writer of the article goes on to show that his information or his inferences are based entirely on his interpretation of statements made in America. If I answer him, I can hardly hope that my answer will be allowed to reach the public in America. He shows, in the course of his article, that the insurrection in the beginning of the coming summer is to be the work of the Irish Volunteers. My answers to his three questions will be plain enough. The Irish Volunteers have never received and never sought German money. The purpose of the Irish Volunteers remains unchanged since it was first announced in November, 1913. It did not then, and does not now, include "creating a diversion in favour of Germany." The Irish Volunteers will not make the interests of Ireland subsidiary to those of any other country. I do not know what is meant by "deluging the Green Isle with blood in order to discredit Mr. Redmond and his colleagues," but I do know that I did my utmost while I could to maintain Mr. Redmond and his colleagues in a position of independence of English party dictation; that, owing to the "adroit management" of Mr. Asquith, they treated the Irish Volunteers as an enemy to be kept in subjection; that their present position of impotent dependence on the good-will of English politicians is mainly the result of factious hostility to the Irish Volunteers; and that to discredit them is the policy of their own allies and not the policy of the Irish Volunteers, even though Mr. Redmond acquiesces in the Dublin Castle programme of exasperation.

* * *

In the course of the article in the "Chicago Citizen," the writer seems to be under the impression that the Irish Volunteers are under the control of Irishmen in America. No Irishman and no number of Irishmen in America have ever advanced the slightest claim to control or dictate the action of the Irish Volunteers. We have received from the Irish in America funds which have been publicly acknowledged. Not one cent of money has ever been sent to us from America with any condition or stipulation attached to it as to our plans, policy, or action.

* * *

The writer of the article in the "Chicago Citizen" seems to me to be sincere and well-meaning. He is Mr. Bernard McGillian and, if I mistake not, he has been for many years a supporter of the Gaelic League. The voice of faction, which alone has free passage from Ireland to America, has led him to fear that the Irish Volunteers may allow their national duty and purpose to be subordinated to the advantage of another country or to the petty aim of discrediting Mr. Redmond. Apart from this, I observe that he does not use the language of insult towards fellow-Irishmen which is the distinguishing mark of the new Imperial patriotism. To judge, however, from an editorial in the same issue of the "Chicago Citizen," those who from this side of the Atlantic inspire that organ of theirs with the gospel of the new Imperial patriotism taken even a baser view of their fragment of a following in America than they take of their bewildered and hoping-for-the-best supporters here in Ireland. The "German gold" lie, it will be remembered, was first communicated by "responsible members of the Irish Party" to that great friend of Irish liberty, Lord Northcliffe's "Daily Mail." The statement was promptly and publicly repudiated by two members of the National Volunteer executive, Mr. Sherlock, then Lord Mayor of Dublin, and Colonel Maurice Moore. Since then the repetition of it has been confined to safe places and to such pillars of Law to Order as District Inspector Hicks, whose valour completed the Imperial victory won at Cahirciveen over an Arklow fisherman. But the lie that was shamed down in Ireland is thought good enough still for Mr. Redmond's Chicago editor.

* * *

He begins his editorial with a confession of uneasiness. "Advices from Ireland," he writes, "tell us of a growing disaffection among certain factions in that severely-tried country." You can judge faction from its own mouth. Mr. Dillon is a guest at Mr. Asquith's Coalition banquet. There he is surrounded by Friendlies. Irish Nationalists who do not take their orders from Mr. Asquith are proclaimed to be the enemy. "The old enemy," says the Chicago mouthpiece, "so long **stimulated by funds from across the Channel,** now receives nutriment from another source. . . . However, we do not think the Teutons gain much by the **vast expenditure of money among men and women of the Irish race.** . . . The hirelings that have been secured here and in Ireland can bring neither help nor credit to anyone. . . . We trust when the war is over, as we think it will be before many months, the traitors of the Irish race will have the decency to be ashamed of their blood-money." All calculated, no doubt, to earn the respect of Englishmen and increase the debt of gratitude.

* * *

Just above this editorial pronouncement I see four mottoes. They are part of the standing heading of the editorial page. If they were removed, readers might miss them and ask awkward questions. The first motto is quoted from John F. Finerty: "Europe, not England, is the mother country of America." The second motto is this: "We must tolerate one another or else tolerate the common enemy." The third is from Henry Grattan: "What Great Britain tramples on in Ireland will rise to sting her in America." The fourth is from Thomas Davis:

> It is not strength and 'tis not steel
> Alone that make the English reel,
> But wisdom working day by day
> Till comes the time for passion's sway.
> The patient dint and powder shock
> Can blast an Empire like a rock.

Fye! Mr. Redmond. Under such colours it is to be feared that your editor's sincerity, if not your own, may become suspect. Men are sent to jail in Ireland with your acquiescence for expressing sentiments that are mild in comparison with the standing mottoes of your Chicago organ.

* * *

A fool's bolt is soon shot. The grand attempt to stifle free discussion of the prospective ruin of Ireland by Imperial taxation has been made. Its failure is assured. The confidence voters who at one meeting declared against the ruinous taxation and at the next meeting swallowed their own declaration, not because it was not true but because the Irish Party did not like it, have justified the famous opinion expressed by Dr. McWalter some years ago in regard of another public question: they have "returned like dogs to the vomit." Do the leaders of the Irish Party see any real gain in this game of making public fools of their own supporters? Do they imagine that their present allies, from Lord Lansdowne round to the cynical Chief Secretary, will be imposed on by the sort of strength exhibited in such performances?

* * *

I am glad to note that, as I surmised last week, the Right Honourable Sir Walter Boyd, the Liberal Queen's Advocate who had charge of the Crossmaglen Conspiracy, has retired from the Bench of which he was so long an ornament for no reasons of impaired health or increased incapacity. Since his retirement he has turned up as vigorous as ever, and wearing the new distinction of his eminent merits, at a meeting of the Zoological Society. As a result of this rather singular phenomenon in the annals of the Irish Bench, Mr. James Campbell, pending his becoming Lord Chancellor in the Provisional Government of Ulster, will have charge of the legal department of the war in Ireland. We shall see whether the new Attorney-General will supplement the motto of his political chief, Sir Edward Carson, "there are illegalities which are not crimes," by showing that there are crimes which are not illegalities.

The baronetcy conferred on Judge Boyd has roused the spirit of Judge Kenny, whose record as a Catholic Unionist endears his words to all Irish people. Judge Kenny thinks the Empire and the Union will be benefitted by a more vigorous persecution of Nationalists who don't take their orders from the Government. Among the signs of woe that have met his eye in Dublin is a poster of the IRISH VOLUNTEER displaying the words "Pretence of the Realm Act." Will the honourable and learned and impartial judge deign to answer a question? When the Defence of the Realm Act provides that an accused person shall be tried **where he is found,** can he persuade any **honest** man that the words of the Act empower the Government to bring the accused person wherever they choose and then to find him where they put him? And if so, will he explain why the words are in the statute, seeing that their omission from it would make no difference? The Government's administration of its own statute, and the acquiescence of its incorruptible and upright tribunals, either justify or do not justify my words—the Pretence of the Realm Act. It is a remarkable fact that, while a whole crop of prosecutions and punishments are taking place under that Act, throughout all Ireland and especially in those parts most lamented for their disaffection, there is an unprecedented dearth of punishments under the ordinary law. When the chief disturbing element in Ireland, Dublin Castle, is abolished, Ireland will be the most peaceful and orderly country in the world. Is that what Judge Kenny does not want to see?

* * *

Colonel Sharman-Crawford, M.P. for East Belfast, has been telling his constituents what other members have not been telling theirs. After the war, he says, there is to be an Imperial Parliament of the whole British Empire, and Ireland is to have an extension of local government. Is that the private arrangement, and if so, when will the voters of confidence be taken into confidence? Will there be another tour by motor in Ulster, and assurances that it is all for the best? The whole British Empire outside of Britain and Ireland contains only a few million inhabitants of European race, and the other races will not have much to say in the future Imperial Parliament. The total European population of the self-governing colonies of the Empire is smaller than the population which Ireland would now have only for the ravages of Imperial peace no less renowned than war. Will these self-governing colonies, whose loyalty and united front is held up for our admiration, be invited, like Ireland, to take on their "fair share" of the Imperial Debt and the Imperial taxes? I shall regret if this question cannot be asked without giving the Irish Party cold feet.

* * *

If Mr. Asquith believes Mr. Redmond's assurances that the Irish people, not to mention the Irish in America, are at Mr. Redmond's back, keeping it from being stabbed by a contemptible minority, why should Mr. Asquith be reported to have "drawn the Pope's attention to the rôle which the Catholic Bishops of Ireland could fulfil in an opportune manner, by intervening with the people to bring about a union, so desirable at present, with the other parts of the British Empire?" It is Mr. Chesterton who wrote that Gladstone "stood disgraced" by his request to Cardinal Newman, which Cardinal Newman indignantly rejected, to induce the Pope to influence the Irish Bishops against the Land Agitation. Mr. Asquith is said to have accompanied his plea with an assurance that "after the war the Home Rule question would be settled in an equitable manner." Mr. Pitt assured the Irish Bishops that after the Union the Catholic Emancipation question would be settled in an equitable manner, and Mr. Pitt was then the most powerful Minister that England ever had. But Daniel O'Connell testifies that the Union delayed Catholic Emancipation for a quarter of a century, and even then the concession was only made to fear of insurrection and was accompanied by a measure of disfranchisement that caused wholesale evictions. We want no more promises and postponements. **Airgead sios!**

* * *

The "bloodmoney traitor hireling" inspiration of Mr. Redmond's Chicago organ is supplemented by a politer and more reserved style in a weekly paper called "Ireland," published in New York. Owing to the attitude of the Irish Press in America, this new organ was launched at the beginning of the present year, and is "devoted especially to supporting the Irish Parliamentary

Party" in doing what we are told in its pages has already been accomplished, "in restoring and preserving self-government in Ireland." I have before me the number of this paper dated All Fools' Day. It publishes two "messages" from Mr. Redmond, which have passed the British Censorship without difficulty. Here is how Mr. Redmond describes the for-any-sake Votes of Confidence that express the desperate resolve of the Old and Tired ones to hold on to the devil by the tail: "There is not an elected public body of any sort or kind in any portion of the country—North, South, East or West—which has not expressed complete approval of the attitude taken by the Irish Party with reference to the war. A few men, it is true, are found here and there who dissent; but they are individuals representing nobody but themselves and carrying no weight whatever with any body or any party or class or creed." The second "message" improves on the first. In it Mr. Redmond declares that "every elected public body in the island, without exception . . . **down to the Parish Councils** has formally declared in favour of the stand which I am advocating." Since Mr. Redmond is quite incapable of trying to humbug people in America, even on the First of April, we must suppose that he really imagines there are Parish Councils in Ireland.

* * *

What all Ireland thinks about the "Tullamore Affair" needs no statement here. Mr. Redmond's New York organ stands alone in the nakedness of faction without shame. It condemns the Men of Tullamore and justifies Dublin Castle. By their fruits ye shall know them. Such are the fruits of the New Imperialism at a safe distance from Ireland.

* * *

The same organ publishes garbled extracts from the Lenten Pastorals of the Irish Bishops, and endeavours to make it appear that, when a Bishop asks for prayers for the souls of Irishmen who have been killed in the war, he may therefore be paraded as a supporter of Mr. Redmond's claim to impose on the Irish people whatever the British Government can impose upon him.

EOIN MAC NEILL.

FOR NEW COMPANIES.

LETTER V.

THE TRAINING OF SECTION COMMANDERS.

A CHARA,

A Company is never free from the danger of falling to pieces until it is properly divided into Sections led by proper Section Commanders. These are the backbone of a Company, and from the very beginning the Instructor, or whatever officer is in charge of the Company, should keep his eyes open to select suitable men—smart, neat, reliable, and willing to work. This last is essential, as the job of Section Commander is no easy one. In peace time it means looking after the training, equipment, discipline and mobilisation of the Section. In the matter of training, the proper kind of Section Commander will relieve the Company Commander of the greater part of the routine work and leave him free for more important things. As to equipment, he should see that all his men are provided with the regulation equipment as ordered by Headquarters, and insist that it is kept in proper condition. He must introduce rigid discipline within the Section and report all breaches to the Company Commander. But the mobilisation of the Section at a moment's notice is his most important duty. The other matters can be attended to by Company officers, but the Section Commander is the one man on whom the success of a mobilisation depends. Therefore the conscientious Section Commander will know where every man under his charge is to be found, at whatever time of day he is needed.

The duties of Section Commanders in action have been dealt with fully already in the columns of THE IRISH VOLUNTEER during the past year, and the wise Company officer who has kept a file of the paper will have no difficulty in turning up the articles on that subject. Those who have not had sufficient foresight to keep their copies every week can get back numbers from Headquarters.

I shall do no more now than give you a summary of the

Duties of Section Commanders in Action.

1. Tell men the direction of fire.
2. Give them the range.
3. Insist on their taking cover.
4. Make them open and cease fire when ordered.
5. Change position of Section when ordered by Company Commander.
6. Choose ground of advance.
7. See to the supply of ammunition, collect the ammunition of casualties, etc.
8. Keep in communication with Company or Half-Company Commander.

You will understand now how important a matter it is to have good Section Commanders, and if you have not already done so, pick out a few of what my friend of the "Military Causerie" calls "nifty hard-chaws," and get busy training them right away.

P. H. PEARSE'S "Spiritual Nation" and "Sovereign People" have both been published this week, completing the series of four pamphlets which he has contributed to the "Tracts for the Times." One penny each; wholesale from Whelan.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do bí ag Comáirle Ghnóta Féinne Fáil ina nDúnport tráthnóna D. Céadaoin, an 12ad lá de'n mí seo, agus an Ceann Cata Éamonn Ceannt ina Cathaoirleach orta.

Do molad a lán neithe do bain le hOrdughad, le hArmáil, le hAirgead, 7c.

Dúnport na Féinne,
Áth Cliath, 12 Aib., 1916.

AN COMAIRLE COITCEANN.

Tionolfar Comáirle Choitcheann Féinne Fáil ina nDúnport D. Domhnaigh an 30ad lá de'n mí seo um meadon lae.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, 12th inst., Commandant Eamonn Ceannt in the chair.

Various arrangements with regard to Organisation, Equipment and Finance were approved of.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 12th Apr., 1916.

THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

The General Council of the Irish Volunteers will meet at Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin, on Sunday, 30th April, at 12 noon.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS.

THE EASTER MANŒUVRES.

Arrangements are now nearing completion in all the more important Brigade areas for the holding of a very interesting series of manœuvres at Easter. In some instances the arrangements contemplate a one-day or two-day bivouac; in others there will just be a short field operation extending over an afternoon and evening. The general idea is to test mobilisation and equipment—to bring out all the men and all their equipment—and this is to be regarded as more important than the carrying out of an ambitious piece of field work. Having satisfied ourselves on the important points of mobilisation and equipment, we can work hard at our field training during the next few weeks, so as to be able to bring off a more elaborate series of manœuvres at Whitsuntide. As for Easter, the Dublin programme may well stand as a model for other areas (apart from those in which bivouacs have been arranged): mobilisation, inspection, and a simple field operation. It is not necessary at this stage to tire the men with anything which will make too large a demand on their strength and patience. Besides, they will require some of the Easter Holidays for themselves. We do not believe in making our Volunteer training a sort of bugbear to our men,—a thing to overshadow the pleasure of a holiday. A short and educational exercise which will interest and benefit the men and then leave them free for enjoyment: this is what is to be aimed at.

ISOLATED UNITS.

Companies and smaller units which are not yet linked up with Battalions and Brigades should carry out their own Easter mobilisation tests and field exercises under the directions of their local Commanders. Last week's Order as to sending reports on the Easter exercises to the Director of Organisation, to reach him by 1st May, should not be lost sight of.

FULL EQUIPMENT.

The term "full equipment," which sometimes occurs in Volunteer orders, should be properly understood. It means full arms and ammunition and full marching kit (see Leaflet on Equipment, A 1). In the opinion of Headquarters "full equipment" should be ordered for all Battalion and Brigade parades, so as to accustom the men to marching with impedimenta.

ORGANISATION.

During May the Director of Organisation proposes to visit North and South Ulster. With Comdt. D. McCullough, of Belfast, he will address a meeting in Dundalk early in the month, and later he will visit Co. Donegal where, with Mr. A. Newman, he will address a meeting at Creeslough on May 28th.

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

POET AND HARD-CHAW.

I first set eyes on Malachy Mullarkey in time of peace at an ordinary parade. The dismiss had just been given and he had immediately seized upon some delinquent in his section and was dealing him out a serious lecture. It appeared that the offender had, on being reprimanded by his squad leader, called that officer a fool. The youth was a humourist, and in spite of the stern look in Mullarkey's eye, would make no defence beyond saying, "But he is a fool, isn't he?" Mullarkey at this almost permitted himself a grin, but, remembering his position and his business, told the youth that that was a totally inadequate reason for saying so. "Don't I always salute the Second Lieutenant?" he added. "And don't I always obey his orders?" The other grinned in his turn, showing that he understood the implication.

* * *

Mullarkey, it will be seen, was before all things a disciplinarian. His section was drilled like the Prussian Guard, and if it didn't top the shooting list it, at any rate, wasn't completely at sea on a certain memorable field day. Much to Mullarkey's disgust the end of that day saw it put out of action owing to a too faithful obedience to an order issued by the Second Lieutenant. I have given so far only the merest indication as to this latter gentleman's character. I rather shrink from the task, for I have formed very little of an opinion of him beyond the obvious deduction that he was not a hard-chaw. I have, however, collected numerous other peoples' opinions about him, and give them for what they are worth, classing them in various groups. His friends called him an Idealist, a Poet; his enemies a Dreamer, a Versifier. This puts it rather broadly, but there were sub-groups under each heading. His bosom friends called him a great man; his worst enemies asserted that he was an Ass. And yet again there were certain cynical people who merely said he was a good Nationalist but not much use either as a Poet or as a Lieutenant. This was strange, for I firmly believe that it was his poetry that got him his lieutenancy, and all the world knows that his lieutenancy inspired him to more poetry. However, judge for yourselves.

* * *

Mullarkey was a man with strong theories of government. I have said that his section was well disciplined, but I have something rather strange to add to that. Throughout the early stages of the Great War it experienced some hard fighting, yet never seemed to decrease very much in strength. Was this due to Mullarkey's magnetic personality, or did he conduct an unscrupulous personal conscription? I don't know. He was a hard-chaw. He handled that section skilfully, but owing to a failure on the enemy's part to kill his captain he never got any promotion. This did not depress him, for he had a philosophy; a philosophy of epigrams. He would say, "It takes a good man to lead a battalion to the charge, but it takes a better to stop a section running away," or "It's heroic to die at the head of your regiment, but it takes ability to push your section over a mile of hedges and bogs."

* * *

The general trend of the campaign is fairly well known to the public. The operations, extending over three months and culminating in the Battle of Ballyblank (in which it will be remembered my friend Cornelius Cannon fell), were followed by months of continuous retreating which was very galling to our men, but which finally retrieved the blunder which had necessitated that costly, if partly victorious, action. A respite of about a month followed, and then a fresh advance by the enemy brought about another running fight. Let me conduct you, metaphorically, to a portion of the field.

* * *

Two hours of fighting have proved indecisive, but a wooded knoll has been seized by a small body of the enemy and threatens a part of our line of hedges. It is to be recaptured, and a reserve company is coming forward to do it. As it advances to the assault it is met by a withering fire. The Captain, the First Lieutenant, and twenty men go under. The rest fall flat for cover. But they were sent out for a task, and it must be done. The Second Lieutenant shouts "Forward." No response. He pleads. He talks of glory, and Ireland free. But the men, good patriots all, want to live to see Ireland free. The Second Lieutenant does not realise this. He is an idealist. So, sword above his head, he tries to rush them on, till a bullet finds him also. It was Malachi Mullarkey who finally launched the charge. I don't know how he did it. He waved no sword, and he thought not of glory. He was a hard-chaw. The Company took the hill and Mullarkey died at their head, dramatically, in spite of himself.

THE DUBLIN BRIGADE.

Orders for Week ending April 23rd, 1916.

1. First Aid and Signalling as usual.
2. No lectures for Officers this week.
3. Week's Orders to be given out on Tuesday of next week (Easter Tuesday).
4. Easter Manœuvres on Sunday. Companies will receive orders.
5. In connection with Easter Manœuvres, special grants for equipment will be made to Companies and Sections, old campaigners and recruits.

M. W. O'REHLY, Deputy Adjt.

Training Notes for Beginners,

II.—HOLDING A CROSS-ROADS.

You have a half-company, not very well armed—say forty men, with five rifles, twenty shot-guns, fifteen pikes, and as many revolvers or automatics. Your job is to hold off an enemy coming on one of the three or four roads. How are you to dispose of your force? What are you to make of natural ground features? What improvements of same? How are you to use buildings? We may take it that the country is close. Shot-guns, loaded with the proper stuff, are far from being farcical from a military point of view. The Turks in Gallipoli made them tragical enough. The enemy may advance cautiously or confidently, with or without advanced guard and flankers. For information you send out scouts. The scouts are not to shoot or take prisoners. They are to use their eyes and ears, **and come back.** They are to tell you **seven** main things about the enemy:—1. **Numbers**—as exact as possible, not things like "a big force." 2. **Composition**—infantry, cavalry, machine-guns, heavy guns, etc. 3. **Distance** away or place where seen. 4. **Occupation**—whether marching, halted, feeding, or otherwise. 5. **Direction** of their march. 6. **Protection**—whether with advanced guard, flankers, etc. 7. **Disposition**—whether in close order or deployed. Insist on these points. Do not take hearsay. Take either the cool collected account of a man who has seen, or the **written** report of a man who has seen what is reported. I take it that you know the district well and so need not reconnoitre for positions or the like. I take it, too, that the people other than your own force are friendly, or at least not hostile, if they have not cleared out.

Keep a reserve to throw into the fight at any good opportunity. If your men are not too much scattered in your disposition, or if they are mobile, using cycles or horses, the reserve need not be half of your force. For the rest, armament will give you long divisions. Those with long-ranging weapons may be posted farthest back, with yourself. Be sure to put your revolvers into the firing-line, too, and secure a good distribution of ammunition. Six men with ten rounds each are better for themselves and you than one man with sixty rounds. For the matter of cover you need only ask yourself the questions put above to know the answer. Get dry footing in dykes by filling in stones or wood. Walls need more flank protection than hedges, and are not as good. Stones chip and fly. Yet stone walls are splendid. Make some, if you use a wall, and anticipate a bayonet charge to give your men the advantage of position. Choose a high part of the wall. Build up a footing and put sand bags on top with loop-holes between and under. Or choose a part of the wall which is lower on your side than on the other. Know your left-hand shots and where to place them. For yourself, if you use a revolver or pistol with lance or bayonet, practise shooting with your left hand.

There is, of course, a house at the cross-roads, and it is not easily reached by fire at a long distance. Occupy it. Knock all the glass out of the windows. Throw out things that catch fire easily. Barricade solidly the door towards the enemy. If you have time make loop-holes in the walls in good positions—some in each room. If not, fill the windows with solid stuff that has good resisting power against bullets, and loop-hole same. (See appended table). Put some of your riflemen in the house under an officer, who will take control of the firing—no wild shooting. Fill every vessel with water. Keep open your lines of communication and retreat. Throw up barricades with trees, carts, stones, etc., on the road in front, always on the right side of a bend, so as not to be visible to an enemy till he comes right up to it. Do not put men down behind it. Put them, the shot-gunmen and pikemen, behind the hedges on the side of the road. If you have some left-hand shots put them on their own side, but in such a position that they will not shoot or be shot by their own. If the enemy is marching without protection you ought to be able to ambush him. If he has flankers you must line the hedges or walls branching off the road. If the column comes down the road, hold your fire till it is well under fire. While it is thrown into confusion by fire, let your pikemen charge through it and back, then another volley. If the enemy pushes on, starting to clear the hedges, the shot-gunmen and pikemen will fall back on the cross-roads and prepare for the next act. (Of course you have prepared barricades on all the roads through which the enemy has to pass.) Your riflemen will not fire into the ruck on the road while your pikemen are charging. It is even risky to let them fire up the road while your shot-gun men are in the hedges. It will demoralise these men to know that they may be shot by their own.

Use woods and even single trees for scouting and shooting. When a man climbs a tree, he must use it for cover, keeping on the off side from the enemy like a squirrel.

You are probably expected only to delay the advance of the enemy. Do not be ashamed to fall back in good order. Each man should know his line of retreat, and you should know and have ready the next position to take up. Do not "haggle with the enemy," but do not merely retreat and retreat. Put up a stiff fight and you will gain hours, if not days, for your side. You will also capture the imagination of your people with their enthusiasm and support, and the assistance of forces behind you. Go to-day and write out a cross-roads problem. Every bit of preparation counts.

Penetration of Rifle Bullet at 200 Yards.

(Keep this Table for reference.)

Steel plate, ⅜-inch.
Brickwork, cement and mortar, 9 inches.
Brickwork, lime and mortar, 14 inches.
Hard wood (oak, etc.), 38 inches.
Soft wood (fir, etc.), 58 inches.
Dry turf, 80 inches.
Shingle, 6 inches.
Sand bags, 24 inches.
Sand, loose, 30 inches.
Unrammed earth, 40 to 60 inches.
Clay, 60 inches.

EQUIPMENT WEEK.

At Easter there will be manœuvres in every part of Ireland. Officers must insist on full equipment being carried. Prizes should be given to men who rise to the occasion, and men who cannot get things for themselves should be helped. The Dublin Brigade Commandant is having a cheap sale this week. He offers to every man who provides himself with a shilling's worth of equipment another shilling's worth. This holds for all multiples of a shilling. The man who gets £5 worth will have £10 worth next week.

The promise made at the recruiting meetings to arm every man will be kept. The great tests of merit now are two: to turn out without fail for Easter inspection and manœuvres, and to provide yourselves with equipment. But the man who cannot fulfil the second condition should not fail to fulfil the first. There is an extra store for those who cannot get themselves equipment. Last Easter the National Volunteers made a fine parade in Dublin. We hope a good number of these men are still armed and training. This Easter is for the Irish Volunteers. We should make it impressive. And it is not only Easter: it is the anniversary of Clontarf, April 23rd.

TH. MACD.

GUERILLA WARFARE IN FRANCE.

In the latter part of August and the early part of September, 1914, there took place an incident in the fighting which is now practically forgotten, but which furnishes an excellent example of the system of tactics best suited to the Irish Volunteers.

When the French armies—closely followed up by the Germans—fell back from the Belgian frontier to the Marne, two companies of Chasseurs, numbering about 400 men, were cut off from the main French forces and became isolated behind the German lines in the Ardennes. The Ardennes is a very hilly, wooded and broken district around the Belgian border in a direction North-West of Verdun; and it is a tract of country of considerable size. The French Chasseurs—light infantry—belonged to a battalion recruited in the region and which had been stationed there in peace time. By great good fortune they managed to secure a million cartridges which had been left behind in the general retreat.

No one would have very much blamed these few hundred isolated soldiers for surrendering if they had done so, But as a matter of fact surrender was the last thing they thought of. Instead they split up into small parties of twenty or thirty and spread themselves out wide over the entire area. In this way they kept up a guerilla campaign for some weeks right on the communications of the German Army of Duke Albert of Wurtemburg; and at the end many of them succeeded in stealing back through the German lines in groups of two or three.

The kind of operations pursued by the French parties consisted of attacks on convoys, cutting off small detached posts on the line of communications, destruction of any mechanical transport they could lay their hands on, obstruction of roads, and other similar small enterprises. The amount of trouble they caused the Germans may be judged by the length of time they kept going.

The following points concerning this little campaign are worth noting: the French troops were familiar with the country, having had plenty of previous experience of it; they were light infantry and consequently suitably trained for the skirmishing work necessary; they did not keep together in a body which could be located and wiped out, but split up into small mobile detachments; they used their knowledge of the country to keep themselves supplied and to distribute and utilise their stock of ammunition. One of the most remarkable features of all was that the Chasseurs, although first-rate regular troops, deliberately adopted the guerilla method of fighting because it was the one that promised the best results.

NIGHT OPERATIONS.

ORDERS. In addition to the orders issued in an ordinary daylight assault the following may be required:—

(1.) Time of assembly at, and of departure from the place of assembly, which should be described.
(2.) Order of march, and formations on leaving place of assembly. Distance and intervals. Maintenance of communications.
(3.) The bearings of the route.
(4.) Time and duration of halts.
(5.) Position and distance of place of deployment.
(6.) Formation on deployment.
(7.) Special instructions and signal for assault.
(8.) Description of ground to be crossed.
(9.) Description of position to be assaulted.
(10.) Action in case the enemy opens fire.
(11.) Action to resist counter-attack if successful.
(12.) Action of reserves against possibility of enfilading fire.
(13.) Distinctive marks and watchword.
(14.) Position of C.O.

Orders will be issued beforehand to those officers who will be required to take action. The troops need not know more than is absolutely necessary until the place of assembly is reached.

VI.—DEFENCE.

Defence will probably be the main business of Volunteers at night. The general principles are practically the same as by day. Local counter-attacks, where they are required, should be conducted warily, and should not be pushed too far. The same applies to the general counter-attack.

Whenever action by night is anticipated, orders should be issued detailing the particular course of action of each unit in any eventuality. These orders should be passed on to the men. A distinctive watchword is also essential.

In the absence of searchlights, some sort of substitutes should be utilised, however rough. Easily inflammable bonfires should be prepared on convenient heights, and men detailed to serve them. Acetylene bicycle and motor-lamps would also turn in useful, and should be got ready in advance. The same remark applies here as to artillery. The nature of the Irish terrain makes short distance illumination almost sufficient for most purposes.

[END OF SERIES.]

HINTS ON BILLETING.

The raw Quartermasters of the Volunteers would probably be a bit at a loss at first if required to tackle any problems in the arrangement of camps, billets, etc. Of course, as time goes on an ever-increasing number of the men will have grown accustomed to these kind of problems in camps and on all-day field days. Still, a few hints on the most important points to bear in mind, and where the necessary information can be obtained, will not be superfluous.

First and foremost, the object of billets is to secure rest for the troops: it is a well-known saying that "the worst billet is better than the best bivouac." The men should be dry in the billets—whether we can afford to keep them warm or not depends on circumstances. And if warm, how warm—because they mustn't be made too comfortable. Hay, if you can get it—and you usually can in Ireland—is better bedding than straw for a night: it is warmer, even if it is dusty.

Then when selecting your billets, see that your men are kept as well concentrated as possible. It is much better to house them in one big room than in three or four small ones. Company officers should sleep with their men—to keep order and be on the spot to command them in case of necessity. A few necessary sentries should be posted to rouse the men in case of alarm—in addition to the outposts.

It is also the Quartermaster's business to see that he has some place where he can cook for a large number of men without waste of time. This will mean plenty of active work about fuel and stores, and is a great trial for the raw officer.

Where the force is of large size—as a battalion or a brigade—it will be also necessary to select a place for the quarters of the C.O. and his staff. The great point about this is that it should be easilyf ound by Orderlies, Despatch-Riders, etc. For this purpose a house near the road is the best: a gate-lodge is better than a mansion with a long avenue—which at first sight you might think more worthy of the C.O.'s august presence. In 1866, before the Battle of Sadowa, a two-roomed cottage held the Prussian General Staff: the King slept in one room, Moltke and the staff officers in the other. A sentry should be posted over the headquarters. At night the location can be shown by a lamp on the road. If the lamp is placed there it can't be seen by the enemy at any distance; and it can't be missed by a messenger, no matter how fast he is travelling.

But far and away the best book on the subject of Camps, Billets and Bivouacs is that in the Imperial Army Series for a shilling, which may be purchased at any booksellers. The Volunteer Quartermaster should confine himself to the parts of the volume which concern himself—he need not worry himself about how to billet two infantry divisions and a cavalry brigade.

Printed for the Proprietors at Mahon's Printing Works, Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.